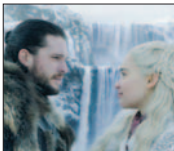


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Air pressure

Pentagon to investigate Air Force over refueling boom on new KC-46A tanker

BY CHRISTOPHER DENNIS
Stars and Stripes

The Pentagon will investigate the Air Force's handling of the development of a remotely operated boom on its newest refueling tanker, which has been plagued by a host of problems.

The Defense Department's inspector general is expected to begin evaluating "whether the Air Force adhered to DOD

and Air Force systems engineering processes" during the design and development of the refueling boom on the new Boeing KC-46A Pegasus, the IG's office said in a statement last week.

The IG investigation will center on Ohio's Wright-Patterson Air Force Base but could expand to other locations, the IG said in a memo to the Air Force auditor general.

Four serious technical flaws have

been found in the tanker, including two involving the boom — stiffness and problems with the remote vision system, which is used to guide the refueling arm.

The stiff-boom problem could "affect operations and cause damage to stealth aircraft" when the tanker is refueling the newer generation airframes, making them visible to radar, the Government Accountability Office said in a

June report.

"The stiff boom deficiency is currently under contract with Boeing to implement a viable fix," Gen. Maryanne Miller, head of Air Mobility Command, said last week at the Air Force Association's Air, Space and Cyber conference in Maryland. "This needs to be and remain a priority."

SEE TANKER ON PAGE 5

A KC-46A Pegasus, left, and a KC-135 Stratotanker rendezvous en route to Pease Air Force Base in Portsmouth, N.H., in August. Serious technical flaws have been found in the new Boeing KC-46A Pegasus.

MARY MCKNIGHT/U.S. Air Force

US blames al-Qaida for civilian deaths during coalition raid in Helmand

BY J.P. LAWRENCE AND PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — The U.S.-led coalition in Afghanistan said Monday that al-Qaida is to blame for most of the deaths during a night of heavy fighting and airstrikes that reportedly killed dozens of civilians in the country's south.

Local officials initially had blamed the raid carried out by U.S. and Afghan forces in Helmand province Sunday night for the deaths of 40 civilians, including women and children attending a wedding ceremony.

"We assess the majority of those killed in the fighting

died from al-Qaida weapons or in the explosion of the terrorists' explosives caches or suicide vests," Lt. Col. Josh Jacques, a spokesman for U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, said via email. "The incident is under investigation with our Afghan partners."

At least 12 people at the wedding party in Musa Qala district were wounded, provincial council member Abdul Majid Akhundzada told Stars and Stripes. Precise casualty figures are difficult to come by because the area has long been under Taliban control.

U.S. and Afghan forces carried out the operation in the district in Helmand to neutralize a group of al-Qaida fight-

ers who "presented an imminent threat," Jacques said.

"In the course of the operation, several foreigners associated with al-Qaida were detained, including multiple persons from Pakistan and one from Bangladesh," he said. "Because of heavy fighting, we did conduct targeted precision strikes against barricaded terrorists firing on Afghan and U.S. forces."

Militants hid in people's houses during the raid, said provincial police spokesman Mohammad Zaman Hamdard. Only three women were among the dead, and three children were wounded, he said.

SEE DEATHS ON PAGE 4

MILITARY

US military helicopter drops container on S. Korean building

By KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — A U.S. military helicopter accidentally dropped a metal container unit being airlifted Monday in South Korea, damaging a building but causing no injuries, officials said.

The container was being carried via sling load by a 2nd Infantry Division helicopter when it fell onto a building in Yongin, just south of Seoul.

"By all accounts, it did cause property damage, but nobody was injured," said 2nd ID spokesman Lt. Col. Martyn Crighton. "Unit leaders are on the ground, and a thorough investigation has

been launched to determine the circumstances and cause of the accident."

He said the initial thought was that the ISU-90 container fell because of an equipment malfunction but stressed the investigation was ongoing.

Local police and fire department officials said nobody was injured in the incident, which occurred about 2 p.m. in the city's Chuin district. Officials also said the container apparently contained fuel pump equipment.

Crighton couldn't confirm the exact contents of the container but said there was no liquid fuel inside.

A city official, speaking on con-

dition of anonymity according to department policy, said the building was run by an adzuki bean business but nobody was inside at the time.

Last month, Japan's Ministry of Defense asked U.S. military officials for inspections and maintenance on Marine Corps CH-53E helicopters on Okinawa after a Super Stallion lost a cabin window during a routine flight. No injuries or property damage was reported.

In December 2017, a 3-foot-by-3-foot window fell from another Okinawa-based Super Stallion and landed on an elementary school sports field adjacent to the Futenma base fence line. More



Yongin Fire Department

Damage is visible after a container fell from a U.S. military helicopter onto a building in South Korea on Monday.

than 50 schoolchildren were playing at the time, and a boy was slightly injured from a pebble that flew up during impact.

The Navy instituted new maintenance procedures after a win-

dow fell out of a MH-53E Sea Dragon in July 2018 at Naval Air Facility Atsugi, about 30 miles southwest of central Tokyo.

gamel.kim@stripes.com
chang.kyong@stripes.com

Washington-based Air Force rescue squadron records its 700th save

By JAMES BOLINGER
Stars and Stripes

Like a championship team hoisting a banner to the arena rafters, an Air Force unit marked its own benchmark recently by pinning another poster to its hangar wall.

The Air Force's 36th Rescue Squadron recorded its 700th save Aug. 12 when a team airlifted an injured student attending survival, evasion, resistance and escape, or SERE, instructor training from a mountainside in northeastern Washington.

The squadron counts its saves from the day it unfurled its colors at Fairchild Air Force Base in 1971. It commemorates every 100th save with a framed poster that is displayed in the unit's hangar.

The 49-member unit supports SERE selection and training, combat rescue officer selection and special tactics training. The squadron also provides its services to civilian authorities for wilderness search and rescue in four states.

The injured airman was attending technical training to become a SERE instructor when he became ill, said Capt. Ben Elias, a UH-1N Huey instructor pilot who was on the mission. Elias spoke to Stars and Stripes via telephone Friday.

A 6:15 p.m. call to Elias' team said the student was showing signs of hypothermia — convulsions, shivering, loss of cognitive function and turning blue — and needed immediate evacuation, Elias said.

"We got clearance to launch and ran out to the aircraft," he said. "It was about 17

minutes from notification to takeoff. The student's location was on a ridgeline on Calispell Peak about 7,000 feet above sea level."

The higher a helicopter gets in elevation the more power is required to keep it airborne. Elias' Huey, call sign Rescue-09, was at full power, fighting downdrafts and heavy winds, he said. The pilots eventually found an updraft coming off the valley floor, which helped stabilize the helicopter and allowed the team to extract the student.

"We hovered at about 100 feet, deployed the medic, deployed the Stokes litter and hoisted the student out," Elias said.

Rescue-09 then flew 25 minutes to a local hospital where the airman was diagnosed as having low blood sugar, or hypoglycemia, Elias said. The student was severely

dehydrated and suffering from malnutrition but has since recovered.

The poster featuring the crew of Rescue-09 was unveiled Friday on National POW/MIA Recognition Day after the unit completed a 3-mile ruck march and other activities.

"We all have our reasons for joining the service. I've been in for about nine years, and for me, it's all about saving lives," Elias said. "While we don't seek recognition, having the opportunity to impact someone's life is meaningful."

"It's pretty cool that my name will be on that poster as long as the squadron is here. It's what we train for and it's what we do."

bolinger.james@stripes.com
Twitter: @bolinger2004

TODAY

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ADVERTISING

KRISTI KIMMEL

CustomerService@stripes.com

+49 (0) 0631.3615.9111
DSN: 315.583.9111

MIDDLE EAST

ADVERTISING

KRISTI KIMMEL

CustomerService@stripes.com

+49 (0) 0631.3615.9111
DSN: 315.583.9111

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ADVERTISING

ICHIRO
KATAYANAGI

CustomerHelp@Stripes.com

+81(3) 6385.3267 DSN 315.229.3267

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Every Friday in the European and Pacific editions of Stars and Stripes AND online daily at www.stripes.com/relo



PACIFIC



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW KEELER/Stars and Stripes

Visitors check out an F-16 Fighting Falcon during Air Power Day at Osan Air Base, South Korea, on Friday.

US, S. Korea share runway at Osan's Air Power Day

By MATTHEW KEELER
Stars and Stripes

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea — The 51st Fighter Wing opened the gates to Osan Air Base this past weekend for the annual Air Power Day, a show of the combined strength of South Korea and the U.S. Air Force.

Thousands of South Koreans gathered on the flight line, where more than a dozen South Korean and U.S. aircraft like the F-15K Eagle fighter and the U-2 ultrahigh-altitude reconnaissance aircraft were on display and the servicemembers who operate them were available for questions.

"This year's Air Power Day offers us the chance to highlight the great men and women of both [South Korea] and the United States of America," said wing commander Col. John Gonzales. "The air show represents a tremendous opportunity to not only enhance the U.S. and [South Korea] alliance but demonstrate our commitment to peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula."

Dozens of booster clubs and food vendors were on site Friday and Saturday to accommodate the thousands of visitors. A popular souvenir that locals purchased from clubs was a red fabric keychain with the words "remove before flight" embroidered on it, a familiar but simple safety device found on many aircraft.

Not all demonstrations took place high in the sky. The 51st Fighter Wing security forces and their military working dogs conducted their own show of K-9 force. Simulating a small-arms shootout, a mock suspect in a padded bite suit fled on foot but was no match for the pursuing German shepherd.

The South Korean air force Black Eagles demonstration team was a crowd favorite. Similar to the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds and the Navy Blue Angels, the Black Eagles, which fly the F-50B Golden Eagle, represent South Korea's best pilots, according to the team website.

The eight-plane configuration performed for roughly 25 minutes, executing precision rolls and high-speed maneuvers. Trailing red smoke, two aircraft drew a heart in the sky that was pierced by a third trailing blue smoke.

The 51st Wing performed a close-air support helicopter demonstration, show-



Members of South Korea's Black Eagles aerobatics team greet spectators.



The South Korean aerobatics team performs.

"This year's Air Power Day offers us the chance to highlight the great men and women of both [South Korea] and the United States of America."

Air Force Col. John Gonzales
51st Fighter Wing commander

casing the strategic coordination required to successfully recover a downed aircraft pilot under enemy fire.

The U.S. Air Force A-10 Demonstration Team and the Pacific Air Forces F-16 Viper Demonstration Team also conducted

tactical demonstrations featuring their respective aircrafts.

Based out of Misawa Air Base, Japan, PACAF demonstration team pilot Cpl. Jacob "Primo" Impellizzeri and his 11 team members travel the Pacific to plac-



Spectators including Chief Warrant Officer 3 Bradley Young, of the 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, look to the sky as the Korea Parachute Team performs.

To see video of the annual Osan event, Air Power Day, go to:
stripes.com/osanairpower



es such as Malaysia, India, South Korea, Japan and New Zealand to demonstrate the jet fighter's tactical capabilities and reinforce strategic relationships.

"When you think of demonstration teams, you probably think of the Thunderbirds as the face of the Air Force," Impellizzeri told Stars and Stripes. "As demonstration teams, we are purely showing off the tactical capabilities of the F-16."

The single-engine, multirole fighter is capable of speeds approaching 1,500 mph and with external fuel pods mounted can travel nearly 2,000 miles.

"Where we differ from U.S.-based demonstration teams is we travel around the Pacific, representing PACAF Misawa Air Base and the 35th Fighter Wing, and we are inspiring the next generation of fighter pilots," Impellizzeri said. "It's great for us because we get to travel around the Pacific and bolster bilateral relationships."

Static displays on the flight line included aircraft from the U.S. Army like the AH-64D Apache helicopter, along with surface-to-air defense systems such as the MIM-104 Patriot missile launcher.

keeler.matthew@stripes.com
Twitter: @MatKeeler1231

WAR ON TERRORISM

3 US troops hurt in insider attack in Kandahar province

By COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Three American troops were wounded Monday when an Afghan police officer opened fire at their convoy in southern Afghanistan's Kandahar province, a defense official said.

A statement from NATO's Kabul-based Resolute Support mission said the servicemembers suffered "non-life-threatening injuries," and the attacker, an Afghan Civil Order police officer, was killed in the incident.

The statement did not identify the wounded as American; however, a defense official confirmed all three were U.S. troops. The official was not authorized to release the information publicly and spoke on the condition of anonymity.

The NATO statement said coalition forces would review their defensive force posture following the incident, which appeared to be the second insider attack in recent months.

Two paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division, SPC. Michael Nance and PFC Brandon Kreischer, were shot and killed July 29 by an Afghan soldier.

"We are reviewing the incident (on Monday) with our Afghan security partners," the NATO statement read. "Resolute Support continuously assesses force protection measures and we adapt and adjust based on the environment."

On Twitter, the Taliban claimed responsibility for the attack, which they said killed 12 "invaders." A Taliban spokesman wrote that the attack Monday was conducted by a Taliban infiltrator who had "entered enemy ranks long ago for carrying this type of attack."

That claim was disputed by a spokesman for American forces in Afghanistan, Army Col. Sonny

Leggett, the top spokesman for U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, wrote the Taliban's assertions were "more lies and false claims" in a tweet from his official account.

The Taliban routinely inflate the number of U.S. and coalition troops killed or injured in their attacks.

Some 20,500 American servicemembers have been wounded in action in Afghanistan during the 18-year war launched in the weeks

'We are reviewing the incident with our Afghan security partners.'

NATO statement

following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on New York and Washington.

In 2019, 17 American troops have been killed in action in Afghanistan, marking the deadliest year for U.S. servicemembers since the United States formally ended its large-scale combat operations there in 2014.

The incident Monday comes as the future of American forces in Afghanistan appears unclear. President Donald Trump, who has long vowed to end American involvement there, abruptly ended talks with Taliban negotiators last month.

His decision came just before the sides appeared likely to sign an agreement that would pave the way for the United States to withdraw some of its about 14,000 troops in exchange for the Taliban to begin peace negotiations with the Afghan government and assurances the insurgent group would not provide terrorist organizations safe harbor.

Stars and Stripes reporter Phillip Walter Wellman contributed to this report.
dickstein.corey@stripes.com

Trial ordered for SEAL, Marine charged in Green Beret's death

Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. — The case against a U.S. Navy SEAL and a Marine who are charged in the hazing-related death of a Green Beret will go to trial.

The U.S. Navy said in a statement Friday that an admiral referred the charges against SEAL Tony DeDolph and Marine Mario Madera-Rodriguez to a court-martial hearing. No date has been set.

DeDolph and Madera-Rodriguez are among four American

servicemen charged in Army Staff Sgt. Logan Melgar's death. He died in 2017 while serving in the African country of Mali.

The Navy admiral declined to add sexual misconduct charges to the case despite a prosecutor's recommendation.

Prosecutors say the servicemen tried to embarrass Melgar over perceived slights. They say Melgar was placed in chokeholds meant to temporarily knock him unconscious before Melgar stopped breathing.



Abdul Haq/AP

Afghans transport the body of a woman who was killed during a raid and airstrikes conducted by Afghan special forces in the southern Helmand province on Monday.

Deaths: Afghan Defense Ministry says group was 'actively engaged' in organizing attacks

FROM FRONT PAGE

Two explosions ripped through the area during the incident, Hamdard said, adding that they may have been caused by bombs kept by militants.

The operations led to the deaths of 22 Taliban members and the arrest of 14 others, including five Pakistani nationals and one Bangladeshi, said an Afghan Defense Ministry statement.

"The foreign terrorist group was actively engaged in organiz-

ing terrorist attacks," said the statement, adding that a large warehouse of the terrorists' supplies and equipment was also destroyed in the raid.

The raid comes a week after Afghan officials blamed the U.S. for killing at least 16 and wounded many others, mostly civilians, in a drone strike in eastern Nangarhar province. The strike was targeting Islamic State militants, the U.S. said.

U.S. officials have promised

greater battlefield pressure on Taliban militants following a breakdown in peace talks between the U.S. and the insurgent group, which harbored al-Qaida after the 9/11 attacks 18 years ago and has so far refused to renounce the terrorist organization founded by Osama bin Laden.

Stars and Stripes reporter Chad Garland and Zubair Babakarkhali contributed to this report.
lawrence.jp@stripes.com
Twitter: @jplawrence3
wellman.phillip@stripes.com
Twitter: @pwwellman

Businessman who bilked US of millions for Afghan mine sentenced to 4½ years

By J.P. LAWRENCE
Stars and Stripes

A California businessman who defrauded the U.S. government of nearly \$16 million intended to develop a marble mine in Afghanistan was sentenced to 4½ years in prison last week.

Azam Doost, 41, of Union City, Calif., was found guilty in September 2018 of defrauding the U.S. government, making false statements on a loan application, wire fraud and money laundering, the Justice Department said in a statement Thursday.

Doost's company, Equity Capital Mining LLC, received a loan of \$15.8 million in 2010 from the Overseas Private Investment Corp., a U.S. government agency that promotes foreign investment, that was meant to be used to develop and operate a marble mine near the Afghan city of Herat, court records show.

Instead of using the money for its intended purpose, Doost and

others funneled it to personal accounts and used it to pay off debts, prosecutors said.

They then claimed not to have enough money to make the loan payments and eventually defaulted.

"These are insidious crimes enabled by an abysmal lack of oversight by a U.S. agency," said John F. Sopko, the special inspector general for Afghanistan reconstruction, whose office worked with the FBI to investigate the case.

The U.S. government invested almost half a billion dollars since 2009 to help Afghanistan tap into its vast reserves of minerals, oil and natural gas, which officials have estimated could bring in about \$2 billion to the Afghan government each year, SIGAR said in a 2016 report.

But positive results from the U.S.-funded projects have been limited, the report said, citing corruption as a key reason for the failure of efforts to devel-

op the extractive industries in Afghanistan.

Speaking of Doost's case, Sopko said it was "a misuse of dollars intended to spur economic development and provide jobs for the Afghan people."

U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta disagreed somewhat, lauding Doost for employing thousands of people to help build the marble mining industry in Afghanistan and rejecting a prosecution request to imprison the businessman for 14 years, Law360 reported.

While Mehta gave Doost credit for going to Afghanistan "with good intentions," he also chided him for his misdeeds, the legal news site reported.

"You could have, but you did not stop," Mehta told him, referring to a "long period" of improper dealings.

lawrence.jp@stripes.com
Twitter: @jplawrence3

MILITARY

Kansas soldier accused in bomb-making case

By ROBERT A. CRONKLETON
The Kansas City (Kan.) Star

A soldier based at Fort Riley, Kan., has been charged in federal court in Topeka, Kan., with sending over social media instructions on how to make bombs triggered by cellphones, according to federal prosecutors in Kansas.

Pfc. Jarrett William Smith, 22, of Fort Riley, has been charged with one count of distributing information related to explosives and weapons of mass destruction, the U.S. Attorney for the District of Kan-

sas announced in a news release Monday.

Smith, an infantry soldier, joined the Army in June 2017 and was transferred to Fort Riley in July. Smith allegedly said he was interested in traveling to Ukraine to fight with a paramilitary group called the Azov Battalion, according to an FBI investigator's affidavit.

Smith allegedly offered during a Facebook chat to teach other Facebook users to make cellphone explosive devices "in the style of the Afghans," according to prosecutors.

Smith allegedly told an undercover in-

vestigator on Aug. 19 that he was looking for radicals like himself. Smith allegedly talked about killing antifa members and destroying nearby cell towers or a local news station, according to the release.

Two days later, Smith allegedly told an undercover investigator how to make a vehicle bomb. When the investigator commented that most of the components were household items, Smith allegedly said, "Making AK47s out of expensive parts is cool, but imagine, if you will, if you were going to Walmart instead of a gun store to buy weapons."

Smith also allegedly described in detail to the investigator how to build a bomb that could be triggered by calling a cellphone.

"Be very careful with the fully armed device," Smith allegedly warned the investigator, according to the release.

Smith faces up to 20 years in federal prison and a fine of up to \$250,000 if convicted.

Court papers say Smith also suggested targeting a major news network with a car bomb, according to The Associated Press. The news network was not identified.

Russian PM says US plans for Kaliningrad air defenses 'idiotic'

By JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

STUTTGART, Germany — A U.S. general's comments about a plan to break through Russian air defenses in the military exclave of Kaliningrad if necessary were dismissed by Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev as "idiotic," Russia's Tass news agency has reported.

Medvedev lashed out at statements made last week by U.S. Air Forces Europe chief Gen. Jeff Harrigan, who said countering Russian air defenses in Kaliningrad, which is wedged between NATO members Lithuania and Poland, is a top U.S. priority in Europe.

"If we have to go in there to take down, for instance, the Kaliningrad IADS [Integrated Air Defense System], let there be no doubt we have a plan to go after that," Har-

rigan told reporters at a roundtable discussion in Washington last week, the Breaking Defense news website reported.

"We train to that. We think through those plans all the time, and ... if that would ever come to fruition, we'd be ready to execute."

Medvedev said the Pentagon should be focused on its own air defense shortcomings rather than eying Russian activities in Kaliningrad. He also took a swipe at the recent failure of U.S. systems to protect oil installations in Saudi Arabia that were bombed earlier this month.

"On the one hand, there's no need to comment on all idiotic statements by American

generals," Medvedev told Russian state media. "However, when this happens, I'm inclined to tell our counterparts, 'You'd better mind your own business and take care of what's going on with your own anti-missile defense (systems) and those ABM systems produced by the United States,'" he said.

Russia's military buildup in Kaliningrad has been a long-standing concern for the U.S. and its European allies. Among their fears is that Russian air defenses and other weaponry could be used to isolate the Baltic states, all former Soviet republics and now members of the EU and NATO.

Medvedev called the attack on Saudi Arabia a "fiasco" that resulted from the failure of the U.S.-made Patriot missile defense system to protect oil installations there.

"I believe that they have to take care of

this and not come up with idiotic ideas that have no chance of materializing," Medvedev said Friday.

His comments echoed similar statements by Russian President Vladimir Putin, who has used the incident in Saudi Arabia as a way to tout Russia's own S-400 air defense system, which competes with U.S. systems on the global weapons sales front.

NATO ally Turkey recently acquired the Russian system, causing enormous tensions with the U.S. and other allies in NATO.

During a visit to Ankara last week, Putin suggested Saudi Arabia should do the same as Turkey.

"The political leadership of Saudi Arabia just needs to make a wise state decision," Putin said.

vandiver.john@stripes.com
Twitter: @john_vandiver



Harrigan

Tanker: Air Force estimates it will take years and cost more than \$300 million to fix flaws in the tanker

FROM FRONT PAGE

Eight months after the Air Force took delivery of the Pegasus, the remote vision system deficiency still needs a solution that meets "critical performance parameters," Miller said. KC-46A boom operators sit near the cockpit and guide the arm using the remote vision system.

"The solution Boeing presents must meet all these parameters," Miller said. "This is a pass-fail requirement. As the air component commander to U.S. (Transportation Command), I can accept nothing less in support to the Joint and coalition warfighter."

The Air Force's portion of work to fix the tanker's flaws is expected to take years and cost more

than \$300 million, the GAO said.

The tanker aircraft is unlikely to deploy to a combat zone for at least three years, Miller told reporters at the conference last week. The KC-10 Extender and KC-135 Stratotanker aircraft may have to keep flying to fill the gap until then, she said.

"I have to keep booms in the air," she said.

The Air Force has banned cargo and passengers aboard the Pegasus after floor cargo restraints unlocked during recent test flights. The issue could cause cargo aboard the plane to become loose, potentially endangering individuals and damaging weapons system, the AMC said this month.

The Pegasus is the Air Force's choice to replace the more than 50-year-old KC-135 Stratotanker.

Boeing delivered its first KC-46A to the Air Force in January after considerable delays. The program, which aims to build 179 aircraft by 2027, was initially supposed to deliver aircraft by 2016.

The Air Force has accepted 19 of the air tankers, and 18 have been delivered. Eleven of the aircraft are stationed at McConnell Air Force Base in Kansas, five are at Altus Air Force Base in Oklahoma and two are at Pease Air National Guard Base in New Hampshire.

The KC-46A is a 165-foot tanker plane built on Boeing's 767 platform that can carry some 210,000



Mark McKnight/U.S. Air Force

Aircrews from the 77th Air Refueling Squadron out of the 916th Air Refueling Wing flies two KC-135 Stratotankers to rendezvous with a KC-46A Pegasus from the 22nd Air Refueling Wing operating out of Pease Air Force Base in Portsmouth, N.H.

pounds of fuel and is capable of refueling every aircraft in the Pentagon's inventory able to do so, according to Boeing. It is ca-

pable of flying about 650 mph and it requires a crew of 15 airmen.

dennis.christopher@stripes.com
Twitter: @chrisdennism

Military looking into deaths of Alaska-based soldier, airman found separately

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

The military is investigating the deaths of two Alaska-based servicemembers who were discovered at separate locations Thursday.

The Air Force on Friday identified Tech. Sgt. Phillip Coley as the airman found dead at Joint Base

San Antonio in Texas, where he was on temporary duty.

Coley was assigned to the 354th Civil Engineer Squadron at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. He enlisted in the Air Force in March 2006 and arrived at Eielson in February, the Air Force said in a statement.

"Our team is heartbroken by

the passing of one of our Airmen," Col. Benjamin Bishop, 354th Fighter Wing commander, said in the statement. "This loss weighs heavily on the hearts and minds of every member of our Eielson family. My deepest condolences go out to Phillip's friends and family, and anyone who has been affected by this tragedy."

Coley hailed from Oakboro, N.C., and is survived by his wife and two children. The circumstances surrounding his death are under investigation by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, according to the statement.

Meanwhile, the Fort Wainwright Criminal Investigation Division is looking into the death of a soldier who was found on post

Thursday night, the Fairbanks (Alaska) Daily News-Miner reported Friday. The soldier's identity was not immediately available, the newspaper reported.

Fort Wainwright officials did not respond to a telephone message or email inquiry about the death Monday.

robson.seth@stripes.com
Twitter: @SethRobson1

MILITARY

Cost-sharing talks to resume between US, South Korea

By KIM GAMEL
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — The United States and South Korea prepared to resume negotiations Tuesday on footing the bill for some 28,500 American troops stationed on the peninsula, just over three months before the current agreement is set to expire.

With President Donald Trump pressing Seoul to pay more, the talks come amid concerns about a rift between the longtime allies as Washington is hoping to restart stalled nuclear talks with North Korea.

Teams led by State Department official James DeHart and veteran South Korean negotiator Chang Won-sam will meet on Tuesday and Wednesday in Seoul to discuss the 11th Special Measures Agreement, according to the Foreign Ministry. It gave no other details.

The topic also was expected to be on the agenda Monday when Trump meets with South Korean President Moon Jae-in on the sidelines of the United Nations

General Assembly in New York. The two sides missed last year's deadline after months of fraught bargaining, but they agreed in February on a stopgap measure that required South Korea to pay 1.04 trillion won, or \$920 million at the time, for 2018.

That was an 8.2% increase from the previous year. However, the contract was for only one year instead of the usual five-year period and is due to expire on Dec. 31.

South Korean media have reported that the Trump administration has sought a fivefold increase, to about \$5 billion a year, by including funding for the deployment of bombers and other strategic assets in addition to the traditional labor costs.

Negotiations over the agreement, which have taken place since 1991, have always been difficult. But the alliance has faced unprecedented pressure in recent months after the South Koreans ended a U.S.-backed military intelligence-sharing agreement with rival Japan.



ADOLINE WITHERSPON/U.S. Army

U.S. soldiers of the 2nd Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade connect a bridge section during an exercise on the Namin River in South Korea on Feb. 27. The U.S. and South Korea are set to resume talks on a new agreement for sharing the costs of keeping U.S. troops in South Korea.

North Korea also has stepped up criticism of the alliance, which it considers an existential threat, as it seeks security guarantees as well as sanctions relief in exchange for possible concessions over its nuclear weapons program.

Trump has consistently called for South Korea to increase its contribution, in line with his

general position that U.S. allies should pay more for their own defense.

In August, he tweeted that South Korea had "agreed to pay substantially more money to the United States in order to defend itself from North Korea." South Korean officials stressed at the time that negotiations had not yet begun.

South Korea insists that it has paid nearly half of the \$2 billion cost for stationing the troops in South Korea, as well as funding a nearly \$11 billion construction project to expand Camp Humphreys, the new U.S. military headquarters base south of Seoul.

gamel.kim@stripes.com
Twitter: @kingamel

Beach patrol complains about US litterbugs at popular island destination

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
AND AYA ICHIHASHI
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Local officials on Okinawa have appealed for visitors to stop littering on the tropical island prefecture's beaches after complaints surfaced recently on social media about U.S. servicemembers.

The issue was first raised on Labor Day, Sept. 2, when the Zamami Island beach patrol posted photos of litter to Instagram. Village officials said the trash was left by both Japanese and U.S. military visitors to the island.

The trash was left at both the beach and the port and included Pabst Blue Ribbon beer cans, red Solo Cups and plastic exchange-brand water bottles typically sold only at U.S. military installations.

"Starting [Aug. 30], there were Y-plate cars parked at the site, and many military-looking young groups and families were there," said Tatsuya Hata, chairman of Zamami Beach Patrol. "They all spoke American English and lived on Okinawa mainland. There were only a few Japanese groups at the site."

License plates that begin with the letter "Y" are reserved in Japan for Americans under the status of forces agreement. Zamami is one of the Kerama



Instagram account of Zamami Beach Patrol

Litter is shown on Zamami Island beach in Japan. The beach patrol said U.S. servicemembers are responsible for some of the trash.

Islands, which also include Tokashiki and Aka, approximately 20 miles west of Okinawa's main island. The islands are accessible by a 50-minute, high-speed ferry ride.

Litter being left by U.S. servicemembers on Zamami's beaches has increased in recent years as the overall traffic has increased

on the street?" he said.

Incidents involving U.S. servicemembers occur mostly during American holiday weekends and summer vacation, Hata said. Japanese offenders litter most during the Obon holiday, which takes place in mid-August.

Violating Japan's Waste Management and Public Cleaning Law by littering can draw penalties of up to six months in prison or a \$463 fine, Japanese government websites state.

Marine Corps officials on Okinawa and Kadena Air Base's 18th Wing were contacted for comment on Sept. 17 but did not respond. The U.S. military in Japan holds beach cleanups each year at nearly every installation near a beach, pulling thousands of pounds of trash off Japan's beaches each year.

Japan's Tourism Agency of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism declined to comment on U.S. servicemember littering. The Okinawa Defense Bureau, which represents Japan's Defense Ministry on the island, said it hasn't seen the reports of littering on Zamami.

Zamami Tourism Association officials had not heard reports specific to U.S. servicemembers except for a case in January in which a Torii Station-based soldier was arrested after breaking nine streetlights at a cost of \$13,000.

The Okinawa Convention & Visitors Bureau said U.S. servicemembers should not be singled out for littering.

"Locals and other visitors from outside of Okinawa also trash the beaches and campsites," a spokesman said. "Some trash is floating waste from elsewhere, and some is obviously discarded by visitors and locals. The beach trash problem has been a headache for all of the districts on island."

Tokashiki Village official Norio Ozaki came to the defense of the U.S. servicemembers who visit that island.

"U.S. servicemembers 'are easier to work with as they listen to guards and staff,'" Ozaki said. "This goes to every visitor to the island: Please bring back everything you brought as our garbage disposal plant is made for our village population of about 761, and we welcome 20,000 visitors a month during the peak season. It is just too much trash to handle."

Hata also had a message for people who litter.

"We are happy that visitors come to the island and it sure boosts our economy," Hata said. "However, please have manners and obey the rules. If you guys cannot do that, then please go elsewhere."

burke.matt@stripes.com
Twitter: @MatthewMBurke1
ichihashi.aya@stripes.com
Twitter: @Ayachihashi

MILITARY

Aliens, superheroes attend Ramstein's Comic Con



CHAD GARLAND/Stars and Stripes

Army veteran Justin Torres, 22, poses as Spider-Man in a homemade costume during the KMCC Comic Con event at the Ramstein, Germany, main exchange on Sunday. See more photos from the event at stripes.com.

By CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Kids high-fived Wookiees, hugged Jawas and posed for photos with Spider-Man at the main exchange on Ramstein Air Base over the weekend as the mall celebrated its 10th anniversary.

Balloons filled with special discounts were dropped as part of the mall's birthday, but the aliens, superheroes and other characters descended on the shopping center in part to promote the grand opening of a new comic book shop.

"They've got some cool stuff in here," said Vic Malone, 18, who stopped into the X-Comics shop Sunday dressed as Spider-Man Noir, his favorite alternate reality webslinger from the 2018 animated movie "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse."

In addition to individual costumes, members of more than a dozen groups, such as the 501st Legion for "Star Wars" enthusiasts, also attended the two-day KMCC Comic Con in full gear.

Logan Hinton, 31, an imagery analyst with the Air Force and a member of a local chapter of the Mandalorian Mercs costume group, came dressed in homemade armor similar to that worn by the "Star Wars" bounty hunter Boba Fett. His son Silas, 4, was outfitted as Darth Vader.

‘A lot of people look up to Spider-Man. It's cool to see kids meet their favorite superhero.’

Justin Torres
Army veteran

More than 60 costumed group members attended the event, which featured giveaways, a costume contest and a parade, said Air Force veteran Brian Sachs, 54, a civilian employee at the base who worked with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service to organize the gathering.

Sachs, who came dressed as

a post-apocalyptic warrior in armor made of "junk," displayed his film-inspired vehicles in front of the mall, including a 1996 Plymouth Voyager he bought for about \$100 on eBay and modified to look like a vehicle from 2015's "Mad Max: Fury Road."

Also parked outside was a Tumbler-style Batmobile — from the Dark Knight series — that Sachs found online and refurbished, giving it a prominent red button to speed-dial Catwoman, in addition to switches and buttons that are standard in Batmobiles to activate gadgets and weapons.

Hanging out and posing for photos nearby with awed youngsters, Army veteran Justin Torres, 22, was dressed in a Spider-Man costume he'd sewn together and customized. He'd seen the event advertised and swung by on his own.

"A lot of people look up to Spider-Man," Torres said. "It's cool to see kids meet their favorite superhero."

garland.chad@stripes.com
Twitter: @chadgarland

Rugby World Cup kicks off in Japan

By SETH ROBSON
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — The best international rugby teams in the world will be in action in Japan over the next six weeks, with dozens of matches scheduled as part of the Rugby World Cup that kicked off Friday at Tokyo Stadium.

U.S. sports fans may less familiar with rugby, but some servicemembers in Japan are taking advantage of the event to get to know one of the world's toughest sports.

For rugby fans in Japan, the World Cup is a kind of Valhalla. While there's plenty of on-field action, fans are known to party hard, and there have been warnings about beer shortages in the Japanese capital.

Japan — home to 125,000 rugby players — has been promoting the tournament, seen as a test run for next year's Summer Olympics. Colorful street banners show a great moment for Japan's national team, the Brave Blossoms — their victory over South Africa at the 2015 Rugby World Cup.

Japan defeated up-and-comers Russia 30-10 in Friday night's match and have an outside chance of reaching the tournament quarterfinals for the first time.

The U.S. Eagles will play their first game against another traditional powerhouse, England, in Kobe on Thursday. They take on France in Fukuoka prefecture on Oct. 2, Argentina in Saitama prefecture on Oct. 9 and Tonga in Osaka on Oct. 13. But the Eagles need an upset to reach the quarterfinals for the first time.

U.S. military personnel and their families can watch many of the games on national broadcaster NHK's free-to-air service that can be accessed on American Forces Network digital decoders.

Match tickets are in short supply, although some may still be available from the Rugby World Cup official website — rugbyworldcup.com. Those who miss out can gather at "fan zones" all over the country where crowds can enjoy beers and watch the games on giant screens.

For some American servicemembers, the tournament is their first experience of rugby.

Air Force Master Sgt. Mark Morgan, 42, who serves with the 730th Air Mobility Squadron at Yokota Air Base in western Tokyo, joined an online ticket lottery with a friend ahead of the tournament.

He ended up with a ticket to a clash between the New Zealand All Blacks and the South African Springboks at International Stadium Yokohama on Saturday night.

The All Blacks performed the haka, a Polynesian war dance, before besting their rivals 23-13 in a thrilling encounter that lived up to its billing as the most anticipated pool match of the tournament.

"It was phenomenal. I had a blast — the most fun I have had at a sport event in a long time," Morgan said after seeing rugby for the first time.

The Oklahoma City native tuned in over the weekend to watch another top team, Ireland, beat Scotland 27-3 and plans to



CLIVE ROSE, WORLD RUGBY/Getty Images

In one of the first games of this year's Rugby World Cup, Ireland beat Scotland 27-3 at International Stadium Yokohama, Japan, on Sunday.

check out more matches at some of the fan zones.

Staff Sgt. Nathan Martin, 29, of Chicago, a member of the Air Force Band of the Pacific, started playing rugby two years ago and plays socially for the Tokyo Crusaders at "lock" — a position that's roughly equivalent to a football tight end.

He was in Yokohama on Sunday to watch Ireland beat Scotland.

Martin has already been to two World Cup matches and a fan zone in Tokyo and plans to watch the U.S. games against France and Argentina.

"I really like that it's a sport for everybody," he said. "You have your big guys who play up front and your fast guys who play out back. It's a physical game like the NFL but it's got this international vibe."

Japan's red-and-white striped national team jerseys are ubiquitous around stadiums but so are the uniforms of visiting teams. Fans from archival teams can



The red-and-white jerseys of Japan's Brave Blossoms will be a common sight over the next six weeks as the country hosts the best international rugby teams in the world.

be seen drinking together before and after games.

Part of rugby's culture is to leave the violence on the field. Players who might have been punching each other in the heat of battle shake hands and remain friends when the final whistle blows.

"You can go to any sports bar in Tokyo and they are packed with

people having a beer and watching the games," Martin said.

"At convenience stores near the grounds, people from different countries are drinking together. It doesn't matter who you are rooting for when you are having a beer."

robson.seth@stripes.com
Twitter: @SethRobson1

NATION

Gun buyback challenge: How to round up so many?

By LISA MARIE PANE
Associated Press

Democratic presidential candidate Beto O'Rourke's recent vow to take away people's AR-15 and AK-47 rifles raised one big question: How is it possible to round up the millions of such guns that exist in the United States?

The number of AR-15 and AK-47s in the U.S. is estimated at 16 million, creating logistical challenges to take them out of circulation. Many gun owners are also unwilling to turn over the weapons, and if the government offered to buy them all back at face value, the price tag could easily run into the billions of dollars.

O'Rourke's pointed declaration during a recent debate — "Hell, yes, we're gonna take your AR-15, your AK-47" — stoked long-standing fears among gun owners that Democrats are less interested in safety or finding a middle ground and just want to confiscate guns. Even some gun control advocates aren't so sure that confiscating firearms will work.

"In some regards, this horse is out of the barn," said David Chipman, a retired agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and now the senior policy adviser for the Giffords group, Americans for Responsible Solutions. "For years, we've allowed these to be sold."

O'Rourke's remarks came in the wake of several high-profile shootings, including two in his home state of Texas that involved AR- or AK-style guns, which resemble military weapons and generally carry more rounds than regular rifles. A summer of carnage was marked by shootings in Gilroy, Calif.; El Paso, Texas; Dayton, Ohio; and in a 10-mile stretch between Midland and Odessa, Texas. In all, more than 40 people were killed and about 100 were wounded in the attacks.

The prospect of significant gun measures has faded in recent weeks under the Republican-controlled Senate and President Donald Trump, and Democratic can-



ROBERT F. BUNATY/AP

Democratic presidential candidate and former Texas Congressman Beto O'Rourke, shown campaigning in Manchester, N.H., on Sept. 7, has proposed a government buyback of military-style weapons, but some question if it's logistically possible.

didates have offered a range of proposals for what they would do on guns if elected president.

O'Rourke believes that most people would follow the law and turn their weapons in under his proposal for a mandatory buyback program and assault weapons ban. He also wants to outlaw high-capacity magazines and expand background checks.

Cory Booker has proposed a similar program that would involve civil penalties for those who fail to comply and hand in their AR-15s. They would not be subject to crim-

inal offenses, however.

There is a precedent for the ideas proposed by O'Rourke and Booker, as difficult as they would be to implement.

The Trump administration recently banned bump stocks — devices that allow semiautomatic long guns to mimic fully automatic fire — and ordered owners to turn them in to be destroyed. But there were only about a half-million of those devices, and they cost far less than an AR, which can run upward of \$1,000 or more.

The ban was largely based on an honor system, though Washington state did offer a buyback program that quickly exhausted

the \$150,000 set aside to shell out \$150 for each device turned in.

In 1994, then-President Bill Clinton enacted an assault weapons ban at a time when there were an estimated 1.5 million of them in circulation. Existing owners were allowed to keep them, however, and once the ban expired a decade later, sales resumed and boomed.

Machine guns like M-16s were outlawed by Congress in 1986, but they can still be owned under a tightly regulated process. Small numbers remain in circulation, largely because of the restrictions.

Democratic candidates pushing gun buybacks have pointed to similar moves in Australia and New Zealand. However, the number of AR-style long guns in those countries pales in comparison with the number in the U.S., and neither has gun rights enshrined in their constitutions.

Chipman believes an assault weapons ban should be handled similar to the machine-gun rules, requiring they be registered and heavily regulated but not confiscated. "I think it would be far more likely that we would find more of the weapons under comprehensive regulation by the government than sort of a forced buyback ban scenario," he said.

There's also the optics of the government taking away guns, presenting another challenge for the Democratic proposals.

The idea of outlawing and then rounding up firearms alarmed many gun owners who believe it will not solve the problem of gun violence and would serve only to take firearms away from law-abiding Americans. They point out that while AR-style guns have been used in some high-profile mass shootings, most gun deaths involve handguns.

"Once you start talking about taking guns away, especially legally owned firearms by responsible gun owners, you're just going to alienate a whole huge portion of American citizens. They're just not going to stand for that," said Chris Waltz, the president and CEO of AR-15 Gun Owners of America. "This is what they feared."

NY officer who also worked as bodyguard for 'El Chapo's' wife arrested

The Washington Post

A New York police officer who worked an off-duty job as a bodyguard for the wife of drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman faces felony drug charges after he was accused of accepting cash in exchange for police protection in a cocaine operation.

Ishmael Bailey, 36, was arrested Wednesday and arraigned in Queens Criminal Court on five counts, including criminal sale and possession of a controlled substance, receiving bribes and official misconduct. The 12-year

veteran of the force was suspended without pay after his arrest. If convicted, he would face up to 15 years in prison.

Prosecutors at Bailey's arraignment mentioned his work for the Sinaloa Cartel boss' wife, Emma Coronel Aispuro, earlier this year, escorting her to and from the Brooklyn federal courthouse in July, when her husband was sentenced for running the world's largest narcotics trafficking group.

Bailey's attorney, Jeffrey Cohen, said his client's side jobs are "irrelevant."

"He's not being brought up on charges for that," Cohen told The Washington Post. "What's happening now is, he's pled not guilty, and I'm investigating the matter."

Bailey's prosecution involves conduct that postdates Guzman's trial and does not involve the Sinaloa Cartel, according to the district attorney's office.

According to the criminal complaint, Bailey met with an undercover officer last month who he believed was a drug dealer. On two occasions, he agreed to provide security as packages of

cocaine were transported from location to location; he was allegedly paid in cash per kilogram moved.

Bailey earned \$2,500 on Sept. 4 for driving a duffel bag filled with drugs to a parking lot in Queens, prosecutors said.

The following week, Bailey again acted as a security guard for the undercover officer, according to the complaint, and he was paid \$10,000 to pick up two kilograms of cocaine.

The acting district attorney of Queens County, John Ryan, said Bailey "took an oath to enforce

the law. Today, sadly, he is accused of taking part in an illicit drug operation."

New York Police Commissioner James O'Neill also condemned Bailey's alleged acts.

"There is no place for corruption within the NYPD," O'Neill said at a news conference after the arrest. "When an individual officer intentionally armishes the shield worn proudly by thousands before him, he will be held to the highest account the law provides."

Bailey is next scheduled to appear in court Oct. 3.

Find out the best installations in the Pacific, chosen by your fellow Stars and Stripes readers!



WHO IS THE BEST OF 2019?



NATION

No clear end in sight as GM strike continues

By TOM KRISHER
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The strike against General Motors by 49,000 United Auto Workers entered its second week Monday with progress reported in negotiations but no clear end in sight.

Bargainers met all weekend and returned to talks Monday morning as the strike entered its eighth day.

A person briefed on the negotiations says they're haggling about wages and profit sharing, new product for factories that GM wants to close, a faster route to full wages for new hires, and use of temporary workers. The person didn't want to be identified because details of the bargaining are confidential.

Workers walked off their jobs early on Sept. 16, paralyzing production at about 30 manufacturing sites in nine states.

Already the strike forced GM to shut down two Canadian factories that make engines, older-model pickups and two car models. If the strike drags on much longer, GM likely will have to close more factories in Mexico and Canada because engines, transmissions and other components are built in the United States. Companies that supply parts to GM also will have to start cutting production.

Consumers this week will start to see

fewer trucks, SUVs and cars on dealer lots.

Cox Automotive said that GM had stocked up before the strike with a 77-day supply of vehicles. But before the strike, the supply of larger SUVs such as the Chevrolet Tahoe already was below the industry average 61 days' worth of vehicles.

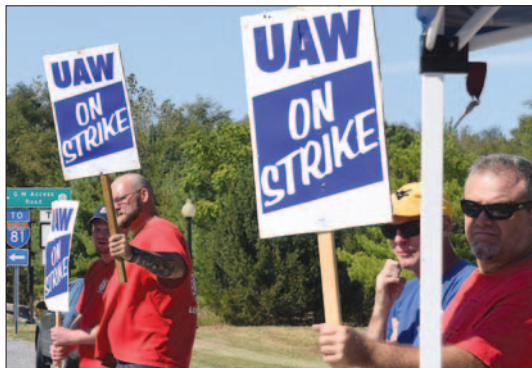
Workers also will feel pressure. They got their last GM paycheck last week and will have to start living on \$250 per week in strike pay starting this week.

The union wants a bigger share of GM's more than \$30 billion in profits during the past five years. But the company sees a global auto sales decline ahead and wants to bring its labor costs in line with those of U.S. plants owned by foreign automakers.

The top production worker wage is about \$30 per hour, and GM's total labor costs including benefits are about \$63 per hour, compared with an average of \$50 at factories run by foreign-based automakers mainly in the South.

Issues that are snagging the talks include the formula for profit sharing, which the union wants to improve. Currently, workers get \$1,000 for every \$1 billion the company makes before taxes in North America. This year workers got checks for \$10,750 each, less than last year's \$11,500.

Wages also are an issue with the com-



MATTHEW UNSTEAD, THE (HAGERSTOWN, MD.) HERALD-MAIL/AP

Members of United Auto Workers Local 1590 picket near the GM Martinsburg Parts Distribution Center in Martinsburg, W.Va., on Thursday during a nationwide work stoppage that has now entered its eighth day.

pany seeking to shift compensation more to lump sums that depend on earnings and workers wanting hourly increases that will be there if the economy goes south.

They're also bargaining over use of temporary workers and a path to make them full-time, as well as a faster track for getting newly hired workers to the top UAW wage.

GM has offered products in two of four locations where it wants to close factories. It's proposed an electric pickup for the De-

troit-Hamtramck plant and a battery factory in the Lordstown, Ohio, area, where it is closing a small-car assembly plant. The factory would be run by a joint venture, and although it would have UAW workers, GM is proposing they work for pay that's lower than the company pays at assembly plants.

This is the first national strike by the UAW since 2007, when the union shut down General Motors for two days.



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NATION

At UN, Trump faces queries about Iran, Ukraine and allies

By JONATHAN LEMIRE
AND DEB RIECHMANN
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Faced with growing tumult at home and abroad, President Donald Trump began his three-day visit to the United Nations on Monday hoping to lean on strained alliances while fending off questions about whether he sought foreign help to damage a political rival.

Trump's latest U.N. trip comes after nearly three years of an "America First" foreign policy that has unsettled allies and shredded multinational pacts.

A centerpiece of this year's U.N. schedule was Monday's session on climate change. That was not on Trump's schedule — although he did briefly stop by to observe for about 15 minutes. His main event will be addressing a meeting about the persecution of religious minorities, particularly Christians, an issue that resonates with Trump's evangelical supporters.

The Republican president arrived in New York on Sunday against a backdrop of swirling international tensions, including questions about his relationship with Ukraine, the uncertain future of Brexit, the U.S. trade war with China, stalled nuclear negotiations with North Korea and a

weakening global economy.

The most immediate challenge may be Iran.

Trump will try to persuade skeptical global capitals to help build a coalition to confront Tehran after the United States blamed it for last week's strike at an oil field in Saudi Arabia. Asked as he arrived at the U.N. building if he will meet soon with Iran President Hassan Rouhani, Trump replied: "We'll see what happens. We have a long way to go, we'll see what happens."

Trump's fulfillment of a campaign promise to exit the Iran nuclear deal has had wide ripple effects, leading Tehran to bolster its nuclear capabilities and disarming European capitals who worked to establish the original agreement.

French President Emmanuel Macron, in particular, has been trying to lead Trump back to a deal and has suggested that the U.S. president meet with Rouhani.

Tensions between Washington and Tehran spiked after a Saudi Arabia oil field was partially destroyed in an attack that Secretary of State Mike Pompeo blamed on Iran and deemed "an act of war."

Now Trump will try to enlist way world leaders in a collective effort to contain Iran.



EVAN VUCCI/AP

President Donald Trump, with, from left, National Security Adviser Robert C. O'Brien, White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, Vice President Mike Pence and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Kelly Craft, listen during the United Nations Climate Action Summit on Monday.

"He needs to win over traditional allies to do what traditional allies do, to band together against common threats," said Jon Alterman, of the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "The attacks last weekend in Saudi Arabia are precisely the kind of thing that the U.N. was intended to address, to create rules for international behavior and opportunities for collective action."

Ukraine also looms large on Trump's schedule. Even one week ago, a one-on-one meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy would have been seen largely as an afterthought.

But Trump's meeting Wednesday with Zelenskyy will come just days after revelation that the president urged his Ukrainian counterpart in a July phone call to investigate the activities of the son of former Vice President Joe Biden. Trump said he was concerned about corruption; Demo-

crats frame his actions as an effort to pressure Zelenskyy to dig up damaging material on a potential 2020 rival.

There are plenty of other concerns in the mix during Trump's U.N. visit, including the U.S. trade war with China.

Chinese President Xi Jinping isn't expected to attend, nor are several other prominent world leaders, including Russian President Vladimir Putin and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Among the nations whose leaders Trump plans to meet in New York are Iraq, Poland, Egypt, Pakistan, South Korea and Japan. He will also meet with British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, clinging to power after failed attempts to steer his nation out of the European Union.

Trump's annual address to the General Assembly is scheduled for Tuesday.

Iran: British oil tanker is cleared for release

By ERIN CUNNINGHAM
The Washington Post

ISTANBUL — A British-flagged oil tanker held by Iran has been cleared for release, an Iranian government spokesman said Monday, potentially ending a months-long saga that had raised tensions between Iran and the West.

Iran seized the Stena Impero in the Strait of Hormuz on July 19, just two weeks after an Iranian supertanker was detained off the coast of Gibraltar on suspicion of transporting oil to Syria in violation of European Union sanctions.

At the time, Iranian authorities said that the Swedish-owned Stena Impero had "violated maritime law" in the strait, a key waterway for global oil shipments, and would face judicial proceedings in Iran.

On Monday, government spokesman Ali Rabiei confirmed that authorities had completed all the legal steps necessary to release the vessel, but he said it was unclear when the ship would depart.

"The legal work has been done, and the administrative procedures have been completed for the release of the tanker," Rabiei told reporters in Tehran, the Iranian capital. News Agency reported, "But I have no information about when it will be released."

The vessel appeared to remain anchored off the Iranian port of Bandar Abbas on Monday afternoon, according to shipping tracking data. An Iranian maritime official said last Sunday that the ship would soon be released but that the case against the vessel would proceed and the results of the investigation would be announced, Iranian media reported.

The move to release the Stena Impero comes amid a brewing confrontation between Iran and the United States following a brazen attack on oil installations in Saudi Arabia earlier this month, an operation that U.S. officials have blamed on Iran.

A swarm of weaponized drones and guided cruise missiles targeted facilities belonging to the Saudi state oil company, Aramco, forcing it to suspend half its production. Houthi rebels in Yemen, who are aligned with Iran, claimed responsibility. U.S. and Saudi officials said Houthi fighters lacked the capability to carry out such a complex attack.

The decision to free the vessel also follows Gibraltar's move last month to release the Iranian supertanker it held for more than 40 days. Authorities in the British overseas territory said last month that it had received assurances from Iranian officials that the vessel's cargo — 2.1 million barrels of light crude oil — would not travel to Syria, where the government remains under EU sanctions.

The tanker, however, is now anchored in the Mediterranean off the Syrian port city, Tartus. It is unclear whether it has unloaded its cargo.

World leaders pledge climate action at UN summit

By SETH BORENSTEIN
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Leader after leader told the United Nations on Monday that they will do more to prevent a warming world from reaching even more dangerous levels. But as they made their pledges at the Climate Action Summit, they conceded it was not enough.

Sixty-six countries have promised to have more ambitious climate goals and 30 swore to be carbon neutral by mid-century, said Chilean President Sebastian Pinera Echenique, who is hosting the next climate negotiations later this year.

Heads of nations such as Finland and Germany promised to ban coal within a decade. Several also mentioned goals of climate neutrality — when a country is not adding more heat-trapping carbon to the air than is being removed by plants and perhaps technology — by 2050.

President Donald Trump dropped by, listened to German Chancellor Angela Merkel make detailed pledges, including going coal-free, and left without saying anything.



JASON DECRON/AP

French President Emmanuel Macron addresses the Climate Action Summit at the United Nations General Assembly on Monday.

NATION

New US ambassador to UN making debut

By CAROL MORELLO
The Washington Post

President Donald Trump's speech may be the main event at the United Nations this week, but many in attendance will also be closely watching as U.S. Ambassador Kelly Craft makes her debut in the second-most prestigious job in American diplomacy. Craft was sworn in on Sept. 12, just days before the annual U.N. General Assembly gathering began. Her arrival ended an eight-month hiatus created by the

departure of Nikki Haley, a lag many say left the U.S. mission adrift.

A Kentucky native who has been a major donor to the GOP and to Trump, Craft will be the fourth woman in a row to hold the post.

She most recently served as the U.S. ambassador to Canada, her only diplomatic experience besides a largely ceremonial role as an alternate delegate under former president George W. Bush.

She drew strong criticism for her frequent absences that took

her away from Ottawa for almost a year of her two-year tenure, sometimes to weigh in during negotiations to replace the North American Free Trade Agreement but often for personal trips.

Critics say her lack of experience makes her ill-suited for a job that is second in prominence only to the secretary of state, particularly in such challenging and perilous times.

Craft arrives as the world body confronts multiple problems — Iran's step-by-step pullback from the 2015 nuclear deal, North

Korea's missile launches, Venezuela's hunger crisis under the Maduro government and concern over civilian casualties in Yemen, where Washington backs a Saudi-led bombing campaign.

This year's General Assembly will be dominated by growing alarm over climate change, an issue where the White House's hands-off approach has been as isolating as Trump's decision to abandon the Iran nuclear deal last year.

Craft is up to the task, her allies say.

"She did a tremendous amount of studying before she left here to acquaint herself with the various subjects she will face in New York," said Nimrod Barkan, the Israeli ambassador to Canada who became friends with Craft in Ottawa.

"She knows there's a lot of studying to be done. But the State Department will help, sending people who are experts to advise her. In this case, it's teamwork that counts, more so than one person."

Activists seek to shut down DC in climate change protests

By JUSTIN WM. MOYER,
REBECCA TAN
AND DANA HEDGPETH
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Climate change protesters shut down some intersections from Capitol Hill to downtown Washington on Monday morning in the latest of rallies around the world designed to force policymakers to respond to Earth's rising temperatures.

Organizers of Shut Down DC urged "climate rebels" to flood the District of Columbia's streets Monday to bring "the whole city to a gridlocked standstill," according to the group's website. The website included a map of so-called "climate criminals" that includes "corporations, lobbyists, trade cartels, and government institutions that are most responsible for creating the climate crisis."

Climate protesters shut down several busy streets in Washington. Police noted 14 locations that were blocked at various times Monday morning.

"I think that we were very successful in holding the majority of the blockades people had planned," said Kaela Bamberger, a spokeswoman for the Coalition to Shut Down D.C. "We significantly impeded traffic in some of the main areas we were in for about three hours."

Transportation officials warned commuters to allow extra time and expect delays on their normal routes. Commuters were also advised to try other modes, including biking in or taking Metro — or the best bet, transportation experts suggested, was to telework.

Activist groups sent out a list early Monday detailing their plans for major intersections. Around 9 a.m., Shut Down DC proclaimed on its Twitter feed it had blockades set up in 22 locations in the District.

Police said they arrested 26 people who were involved in protests because they were blocking traffic.

Protesters at one point chained themselves to a boat to block the intersection of 16th and K streets NW in downtown Washington, three blocks north of the White House grounds. Police used power tools to cut the chains off. They covered the protesters with riot shields and fire blankets as sparks flew, occasionally using bottled water to cool down the tools.

Waiting to be cut from the boat, a 22-year-old protester who identified himself only as George as he risked arrest shouted to a reporter outside the police cord surrounding the boat. He said he worked at a nonprofit that tried to defend the environment. He had chained himself to the boat around 7 a.m. and wasn't sure when he



PHOTOS BY PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/AP

Protesters block the intersection of K and 16th Street NW, near the White House in Washington on Monday. A coalition of climate and social justice organizations were disrupting the morning commute to demand action on climate change.

would be cut from the boat or whether he would be arrested. He said the action was necessary to bring attention to the "climate crisis."

Jeffrey Johnson watched as the chain of a protester was being cut from the boat around 8:20 a.m. The protest hadn't disrupted his early commute.

"I don't even know what the message is," he said. "They need to get some signs up."

But Johnson appeared broadly supportive of any critique of the current occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.

"They're protesting in the wrong place," he said. "It should be two blocks up where that knucklehead is at."

Other commuters seemed to take the delays in stride.

Sitting in a car at 16th and L streets NW, Jackie Hilliard tried to remain philosophical about her delayed commute.

She had been "detoured," she said, from an attempt to make a right on Rhode Island Avenue on the way to her job at a law firm and was circling through downtown. The net effect on her commute wouldn't be that bad — just an 11-minute delay.



Some protesters at K and 16th Street NW chained themselves to a boat during the Monday demonstrations.

NATION

Airline mechanic case highlights 'insider threat'

Associated Press

The arrest of an airline mechanic suspected of being sympathetic with terrorists and charged with sabotaging a jetliner has renewed fear about the "insider threat" to aviation security.

Despite security upgrades since the hijacking terrorist attacks of 2001, breaches including a gun-running operation at the nation's biggest airport illustrate the possibility that a well-placed airline or airport employee could bring down a plane.

"Should people be worried? Hell, yeah," says Doron Pely, a former aviation security consultant in Israel. "This doesn't require a suicide bomber. It requires access to an airframe, an aircraft and motivation."

Several experts interviewed for this story said it would be difficult if not impossible to stop every determined criminal or terrorist. They said steps that might beef up defenses against an insider attack — such as requiring aviation workers to go through security checkpoints just like passengers — could add costs and slow down work that goes on at airports.

While there have been several cases in recent years of insiders using their special access to board planes without going through security — in one case, even steal a plane — they haven't harmed passengers, and there hasn't been clamoring for tougher security.

Under federal law, people applying to work in secure areas of an airport must pass a three-part vetting process run by the Transportation Security Administration — a criminal records check, a "security threat assessment" that includes checking their names against a terrorism watch list, and proof that they are eligible to work in the United States.

Abdul Alami, who was born in Iraq and became a U.S. citizen in 1992, passed that test and got a job repairing planes for American Airlines. There were setbacks in his career — Alaska Airlines fired him in 2008 for shoddy work, something that American apparently didn't know — but there was no criminal history, no other outward signs of problems.

On Sept. 5, Alami was arrested in Miami and charged with trying to disable or damage an aircraft. According to an air marshal's affidavit, Alami admitted that in July he used his access to the back side of the airport terminal to drive up to a Boeing 737, open a compartment below the cockpit, and glue a piece of foam inside navigation equipment in such a way that pilots wouldn't be able to tell how fast or high they were flying. The blockage triggered an alert when pilots powered up the plane and they canceled the takeoff.

In 2013, a technician with access to the tarmac was arrested as he tried to plant what he thought was a bomb at the airport in Wichita, Kan. He had told an FBI undercover agent that he wanted to carry out a jihad for al-Qaida.

In 2014, a Delta Air Lines baggage handler was arrested and later convicted for using his security badge to avoid checkpoints and help smuggle guns on flights. In 2018, a Horizon Air employee stole a plane from Seattle's airport and crashed it 25 miles away.

In 2015, the inspector general of the Homeland Security Department, TSA's parent, found that TSA failed to identify 73 aviation workers with security badges who should have triggered terrorism-related red flags. The reason: TSA wasn't authorized to get all terrorism-related information from other federal agencies. After an outcry, TSA got more access.



UTAH HIGHWAY PATROL/AP

This tour bus crashed Friday near Bryce Canyon National Park in southern Utah, killing four Chinese-speaking tourists. The driver was on his first trip for the recently formed company, investigators said.

Tour bus driver in deadly crash in Utah was on 1st trip for firm

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — The driver of a tour bus that crashed near a national park in Utah, killing four Chinese tourists and injuring dozens more, was making his first trip for a company that had been in business for only a short time, investigators said Sunday.

The National Transportation Safety Board is researching the driver's background, license qualification and medical history, Pete Kotowski, an investigator-in-charge for the agency, said at a news conference Sunday night. He didn't disclose the driver's name but said he's from California. The agency has not yet interviewed him.

The driver is a U.S. citizen and he didn't appear to be intoxicated, the Utah Highway Patrol said previously.

The NTSB is also researching the bus company's inspection history, hiring practices and corporate safety culture, Kotowski said. The company, America Shengjia Inc., based in Ontario, Calif., is cooperating with investigators, he

said. He said it had been in business for a "short period of time" but didn't say exactly how long.

Multiple phone messages left with the company Saturday and Sunday by The Associated Press were not returned.

The cause of the Friday crash near Bryce Canyon National Park in southern Utah has yet to be determined, Kotowski said. They're examining the crash scene as well as the mid-sized 2017 bus.

Utah Highway Patrol officials previously said it appeared the driver swerved and overcorrected, sending the bus rolling over into a guardrail near a highway rest stop a few miles from the national park. The crash left the top of the bus smashed in and one side peeling away as the vehicle came to rest mostly off the side of the road against a sign.

Four people died and five others were in critical condition as of Saturday night. Hospital officials didn't provide condition updates Sunday.

The bus had seat belts, but it's unknown if any passengers were

wearing them, Kotowski said. Utah Highway Patrol Sgt. Nick Street said previously not everyone was wearing a seat belt, as is common in tour buses.

Three women and one man died in the crash. The victims have been identified as Ling Geng, 68; Xiyun Chen, 67; Zhang Caiyu, 62; and Zhongliang Qiu, 65, according to the Utah Highway Patrol.

The deceased were part of a group made up of 29 tourists and one leader. They came from Shanghai and the provinces of Zhejiang, Jiangsu and Heilongjiang, according to a news report on the media website huanqiu.com. The tour leader came from Hebei province, near Beijing, according to the Zhejiang Online news site. The tour group was dispatching employees from China to help those injured.

All 31 people on board were hurt. Twelve to 15 on board were considered to be in critical condition shortly after the crash, but several have since improved, Street said.

Transplant recipient seeks new donor face with 1st failing

Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — A woman who was severely burned in a domestic violence attack in Vermont is hoping for a second face transplant after doctors recently discovered tissue damage that likely will lead to the loss of her donor face.

Carmen Blandin Tarleton, 51, was burned over 80% of her body when her estranged husband beat her with a baseball bat and doused her body with lye in 2007. Six years ago, she received a face transplant at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, where

she's being evaluated for a possible second transplant.

Tarleton, who now lives in Manchester, told The Boston Globe she has no regrets about the transplant because it dramatically improved her life. She has learned to play the piano and banjo, wrote a memoir and has spoken to many groups about her life. She lost 20 pounds and began walking 5 miles a week.

"I had such a low quality of life prior to my face transplant. Do I wish it had lasted 10 or 20 years? Of course," she said.

More than 40 patients worldwide have received face trans-

plants, including 15 in the United States. None of the American patients have lost their donor faces, but last year a French man whose immune system rejected his donor face eight years after his first transplant underwent a second.

Tarleton's doctors noted that most transplanted organs have limited life spans. But her situation is a reminder that despite successes in the field, face transplantation is experimental and still a young science with many unanswered questions about benefits versus long-term risks.

"There are so many unknowns

and so many new things we are discovering," said Dr. Bohdan Pomahac, director of plastic surgery transplantation at the Brigham and one of Tarleton's surgeons.

Still, he said, "it's really not realistic to hope faces are going to last the patient's lifetime."

Since her transplant in February 2013, Tarleton has had repeated rejection episodes when her new face became swollen and red.

Those episodes were successfully treated, but last month, physicians discovered that some blood vessels to her face had nar-

rowed and closed, causing facial tissue to die. If the damage progresses slowly, she could go on the wait list for another donor face.

Under the worst-case scenario, the tissue would die quickly, and doctors would have to remove it and reconstruct her original face.

It will take at least a month to evaluate Tarleton and reach a decision about a second transplant, doctors said.

Aside from the setback with her face, a synthetic cornea transplanted into her left eye recently failed, leaving her almost blind.

WORLD

School collapse kills at least 7 children in Kenya

By JOSPAT KASIRE

Associated Press

NAIROBI, Kenya — A school collapsed in Kenya's capital on Monday and killed at least seven children, officials said, while some outraged residents alleged shoddy construction. Two other children were in critical condition.

"We were in class reading and we heard pupils and teachers screaming, and the class started collapsing and then a stone hit me on the mouth," one survivor, Tracy Odour, 10, told The Associated Press. "When we got out of the gate we heard that pupils were dead. I feel so sad."

Parents waited over the remains of The Precious Talent Top School in Nairobi, and hundreds of people gathered as emergency workers picked through debris. It was not clear whether anyone was trapped underneath.

Government spokesman Cyrus Oguna confirmed the deaths, and Kenyatta National Hospital later said 64 children had been admitted, most with minor injuries.

"The children here were all running away and crying," resident Michael Otieno said. More than 800 students are enrolled at the school, officials said.

It was not immediately clear why the building of corrugated metal and wood collapsed around



KHALIL SENOSI/AP

People and rescuers walk on debris of The Precious Talent Top School in Nairobi, Kenya, on Monday. The school collapsed, and officials said at least seven children were killed.

7:30 a.m. Construction can be poorly following in some fast-growing Kenyan communities.

"You can easily break it with your own hands, as easy as that," Peter Ouko, a resident, said of the building materials. "This is chick-

en wire, not a construction material, and someone had the guts to use this to build a construction for our kids. I think this is basically premeditated murder."

Nathaniel Matalanga, a structural engineer with La Femme

Engineering Services Ltd., told reporters that he didn't think "any professionals" were involved in the school's construction and he blamed "greed."

There was no immediate comment from school officials.

4,000-plaintiff trial opens in France

Associated Press

PARIS — A massive trial involving more than 4,000 plaintiffs opened Monday for French pharmaceutical giant Servier Laboratories and France's medicines watchdog, accused of involuntary manslaughter, fraud and other charges in a scandal over a diabetes medication suspected of causing hundreds of deaths.

Although designed as a diabetes drug, Mediator was widely prescribed as a hunger suppressant to millions of people before sales were suspended in France in 2009. The closely watched trial that opened in Paris is expected to last six months and is one of France's biggest in years.

The trial dossier runs to nearly 700 pages — with around 300 pages taken up by plaintiffs' names. The trial was spread across five rooms, connected by

video link, at the Paris courthouse, and nearly 400 lawyers were working the case.

A 2010 study said Mediator was suspected in 1,000-2,000 deaths, with doctors linking it to heart and lung problems.

Investigating magistrates concluded that Servier for decades covered up Mediator's effects on patients. The national medicines agency is suspected of colluding in masking its dangers.

Francois de Castro, a lawyer for Servier, said the pharmaceutical firm wasn't aware of risks associated with Mediator before 2009 — 33 years after it first went on sale. Servier is being tried on charges of manslaughter, unintentional wounding, fraud and deceit about the makeup of Mediator and the risks of taking it.

France's medicines agency, since reformed and renamed, is also accused of manslaughter by



MICHEL EULIER/AP

Olivier Laureau, CEO of the pharmaceutical giant Servier Laboratories, arrives at a Paris courthouse Monday as a trial opens for Servier and France's medicines watchdog.

negligence and causing unintentional harm. Also on trial are 12 representatives of the pharmaceutical giant and the medicines agency.

"This trial is a victory for the victims," said Dominique-Michel Courtois, head of a Mediator victims group. He said they want answers on how Servier obtained a license to market the drug and "hoodwinked the authorities."

Lawyers: Egyptian police arrested 400 protesters

Associated Press

CAIRO — Egyptian security forces rounded up hundreds of people following small but rare anti-government protests, rights lawyers said Monday, as authorities moved to take harsh preventive measures against more unrest.

Hundreds of protesters took to the streets in several Egyptian cities including the capital, Cairo, over the weekend, calling for President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi to step down.

All protests were quickly broken up by police. But they marked a startling eruption of popular dissent, which has been almost completely silenced in the past years by draconian measures imposed over el-Sissi.

On Monday, lawyers Malek Adly and Khaled el-Masry said security forces had arrested at least 400 people in Cairo and elsewhere across the country.

El-Masry said prosecutors questioned at least 220 people over claims that they took part in activities of an outlawed group, disseminating false news, misuse of social media platforms and taking part in unlicensed protests. Under Egyptian law, the accusations could land them in jail for years.

Prosecutors did not immediately elaborate or offer evidence.

After Friday's demonstrations, the Muslim Brotherhood, which the government has outlawed and designated as a terrorist group in 2013, voiced in a statement its support for the protesters and urged people to take to the streets to "end the military rule."

Police have been heavily deployed in main squares and streets in across Cairo.

There were calls for more protests in the coming days on social media, from where Friday's demonstrations took their cue.

Women on trial for attempted attack near Notre Dame Cathedral in 2016

Associated Press

PARIS — Before it was ravaged by fire, Notre Dame Cathedral was the target of a bungled terrorist plot by two French women who pledged allegiance to Islamic State.

They were going on trial Monday in a special Paris court for attempting to explode a vehicle laden with fuel-doused gas canisters in the shadow of the medieval monument in 2016. Six other

people are also on trial for related terrorism charges.

The Notre Dame plot failed, and no one was hurt. But the women had been recruited by one of France's most notorious jihadists, and prosecutors say the attempted explosion could have killed dozens of people.

Ines Madani, now 22, is considered the key player. She was just a teenager when she and Ornella Gliggmann joined a channel on social network Telegram run by

French jihadi Rachid Kassim, according to court documents.

Kassim was central to French recruiting efforts for ISIS, prosecutors say, and was believed linked to a gruesome attack on a French priest inside his Normandy church and the killing of a French police couple at home in front of their child. Kassim moved to Syria in 2015, and during the summer of 2016 he multiplied his threats against France on social networks and released

a guide detailing how followers should commit attacks. Among suggested methods: group stabbing or "filling a vehicle with gas cylinders and spraying them with fuel."

On Sept. 4, 2016, Madani and Gliggmann parked a Peugeot carrying six gas canisters near Notre Dame, doused them with diesel fuel and tried to set them alight. But they failed, and fled.

Police quickly found their trail. The car belonged to Madani's

father, and the two women's fingerprints and DNA were found on the gas canisters.

Madani "acknowledges responsibility" for plotting the Notre Dame attack and is expecting a conviction, her lawyer, Laurent Pasquet Marinacque, said. The lawyer said Madani was manipulated by Kassim.

Kassim will be tried in absentia. He was believed killed by a drone strike in 2017 around the Iraqi city of Mosul.

WORLD

20 killed, 70 hurt in Papua protests

By NINIK KARMINI
Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia — At least 20 people were killed Monday, including three shot by police, in violent protests by hundreds of people sparked by rumors that a teacher insulted an indigenous student in Indonesia's restive Papua province, officials said.

An angry mob torched local government buildings, shops and homes and set fire to cars and motorbikes on several roads leading to the district chief's office in Wamena city, said Papua police chief Rudolf Alberth Rodja.

Papua military spokesman Eko Daryanto said at least 16 civilians, including 13 from other Indonesian provinces, were killed in Wamena, mostly after being trapped in burning houses or shops.

He said at least one soldier and three civilians died in another protest in Jayapura, the capital of Papua province.

About 65 civilians were injured in Wamena and five police officers were critically injured in Jayapura, he said.

Television video showed orange flames and black smoke billowing from burning buildings in Wamena.

Rodja said the protest was triggered by rumors that a high school teacher in Wamena who is not from Papua called an indigenous Papuan student a "monkey"



People gather as shops burn in the background during a protest in Wamena in Papua province, Indonesia, on Monday. Violent protests have left at least 20 people dead and scores injured.

last week.

He said a police investigation did not find any evidence of racism against the student, and that false rumors have been spreading among students in other schools and native communities.

"We believe this false information was intentionally designed to create riots," Rodja told reporters in Jayapura, the capital of Papua province. "This is a hoax and I call on people in Papua not to be

provoked by untrue news."

Joko Harjani, an airport official, said the protest forced authorities to close the city's airport until the situation returns to normal.

The protest came days after Indonesian authorities managed to get the province under control after weeks of violent demonstrations by thousands of people in Papua and West Papua provinces against alleged racism toward

Papuans. At least one Indonesian soldier and four civilians were killed in that violence.

The previous protests were triggered by videos circulated on the internet showing security forces calling Papuan university students "monkeys" and "dogs" in East Java's Surabaya city when they stormed a dormitory where Papuan students were staying after a torn Indonesian flag was found in a sewer.

Harry and Meghan start family tour in Africa

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — Prince Harry and his wife, Meghan, the duchess of Sussex, began their first official tour as a family on Monday with their infant son, Archie, in South Africa.

The first day of their 10-day, multi-country tour started in Cape Town with visits to girls' empowerment projects that teach rights and self-defense. A musical welcome greeted them in the township of Nyanga.

Their visit also will focus on wildlife protection, entrepreneurship, mental health and mine clearance.

New Ebola vaccine to be used in Congo

LONDON — The World Health Organization on Monday announced Congo will start using a second experimental Ebola vaccine as efforts to stop the deadly outbreak are stalled and Doctors Without Borders criticizes vaccination efforts to date.

The U.N. health agency said in a statement the second vaccine, made by Johnson & Johnson, will be used beginning in October in areas where Ebola is not actively spreading.

The question of whether the Johnson & Johnson experimental vaccine should be used was at the center of a dispute between Congo's health minister, Dr. Oly Ilunga, and global health officials. Ilunga had insisted Congo would not use the vaccine because he said it wasn't sufficiently tested and would create confusion.

Egypt: Police killed 15 militants in Sinai

EL-ARISH, Egypt — Egyptian security forces say police have killed 15 suspected militants in a shootout in the restive northern part of the Sinai Peninsula.

They say the shootout took place Sunday when police raided the militants' hideout west of the Mediterranean city of el-Arish.

Security officials say they found weapons and explosive materials in the hideout. The bodies were taken to a nearby hospital for identification.

Strong typhoon causes disruptions in S. Korea

SEOUL, South Korea — A powerful typhoon battered southern South Korea, injuring 30 people and knocking out power to about 27,790 houses, officials said Monday.

Typhoon Tapah earlier lashed parts of Japan's southern islands with heavy rain and strong winds that caused flooding and some minor injuries.

South Korea's Interior Ministry said Monday the typhoon also brought strong winds and heavy rainfall to southern South Korean cities and towns on Sunday and Monday.

The storm flooded streets, damaged houses and led to about 250 flight cancellations at 11 airports in South Korea, according to the ministry report.

From The Associated Press

Arab parties back Gantz as Israeli prime minister

By RUTH EGLASH
The Washington Post

JERUSALEM — In a historic move, an alliance of Arab Israeli parties recommended a prime ministerial candidate to President Reuven Rivlin for the first time in almost three decades, saying in consultations Sunday that it would support a bid by former army chief of staff Benny Gantz to replace Benjamin Netanyahu.

The process of selecting Israel's next prime minister has entered its second stage, with eyes firmly on the country's largely ceremonial president to see whether he can find a way out of a deadlocked election result and avert a third vote.

Traditionally, Arab parties refrain from recommending a candidate as an ideological

protest at Israel's ongoing military occupation of the Palestinians.

In his Sunday meeting with Rivlin, Joint List leader Ayman Odeh said: "We will recommend Benny Gantz as prime minister. We want to return to be legitimate political actors and bring an end to the Netanyahu government."

Rivlin held consultations with representatives of four of the nine political blocs, including the Joint List of Arab parties, that make up Israel's parliament, the Knesset. After meeting with the rest of the factions on Monday, he will choose between



Gantz

Netanyahu and Gantz, giving one of them the first stab at forming the next government.

The results of Tuesday's general election gave Blue and White about 40,000 more votes than Likud, but neither faction gained enough seats to form a majority in the 120-seat Knesset. Neither, it appears, will be able to muster enough support from their ideological blocs to carve a stable coalition. Similar in size, with 33 and 31 seats, respectively, Blue and White and Likud could form a strong, centrist government.

Rivlin said Thursday that the parity between the two parties indicated "loud and clear" that the majority of Israel's citizens wanted to see a "broad and stable national unity government." It is not clear how he will decide who will be given the first chance at forming the government.

Global postal union meets amid Trump threat to pull US out

By JAMEY KEATEN
Associated Press

GENEVA — The effects of President Donald Trump's stand-off with China could soon be coming to a post office near you — and higher shipping rates for some types of mail are the likely outcome.

The Trump administration is threatening to pull the United States out of the 145-year-old Universal Postal Union, complaining

that some postal carriers like China's aren't paying enough to have foreign shipments delivered to U.S. recipients.

A showdown looms at a special UPU congress that is being held Tuesday to Thursday in Geneva.

The complaint centers on the reimbursement that the U.S. Postal Service receives for providing final deliveries of bulky letters and small parcels sent from abroad — usually ones not weighing more than about 4 pounds.

Such mail can include high-value items like mobile phones, memory sticks or pharmaceuticals.

For consumers, the issue has largely been overlooked.

"Whatever happens, prices to ship via the postal network ... It's going to cost more," said Kate Muth, executive director of the International Mailers Advisory Group, which counts companies like eBay, DHL, Amazon, USPS or their affiliates as members. "The rates are going to go up."

Companies might have to decide individually how to manage such increased rates, either by swallowing the costs or passing them on to customers.

The administration complains that China and many other countries get to pay lower reimbursements because they're classified as developing countries, putting U.S. companies at a disadvantage. It wants postal services like USPS to set their own rates — and right away, not months from now.

BUSINESS/WEATHER

5G phone unnecessary until network upgrade

By ANICK JESDANUN

Associated Press

NEW YORK — No 5G iPhone? No problem. You probably don't want one anyway.

For most people, it's smart to stick with a smartphone that isn't compatible with speedier 5G wireless networks, which are just starting to roll out. That's the case even if you think you'll be hanging on to your next phone for a few years.

Not only are the first-generation 5G phones expensive, their antennas and modes typically work only with particular 5G networks owned by specific mobile carriers. That could limit your options if you're trying to get the faster speeds while roaming overseas or on a rival company's network — or if you decide to switch providers later.



MARY ALTAFFER/AP

Samsung, Motorola and LG are among the companies that already have 5G models using Google's operating system.

The target market

Samsung, Motorola, LG and OnePlus already make 5G phones that use Google's Android system. Huawei announced one Thursday, though it's missing popular Google apps because of a U.S. ban on tech exports to the Chinese

company.

However, 5G phones are a niche product, IHS Markit said phone makers haven't been able to keep up with surprisingly strong demand, especially in South Korea.

Samsung said it has sold 2 million 5G phones worldwide since April and expects to double that by the end of the year. Motorola said it has seen "tremendous engagement and excitement" from customers.

New iPhones out Friday won't support 5G. Apple typically waits for technology to mature before adopting it.

The price of 5G

The speedy wireless technology can add a few hundred dollars to phone price tags. For instance, Samsung's standard Galaxy S10 phone costs \$900; the 5G model costs \$1,300, though Samsung

said it also showcases the company's best features, including a larger screen and a better camera. For Motorola, 5G comes as a \$350 option for the existing Moto Z series phones.

"This territory is reserved for the leading-edge type of consumer, those willing to be first, more money upfront to be a first," said Wayne Lam, an analyst at IHS Markit.

Network limitations

Even as phone companies make big claims about revolutionary new applications, 5G coverage is limited to certain neighborhoods in a handful of cities. While 5G phones can still connect over existing 4G LTE networks, "are you willing to spend extra for something you might not see consistently until 2021?" IHS Markit analyst Josh Bultta asked.

To wait or not to wait

If you can squeeze another year or two out of your current phone, there will be plenty of 5G phones to choose from — including iPhones — by the time you're ready to upgrade.

But it's OK to buy a new, pre-5G phone now if you can't wait. You can always trade that in for a 5G model later. Even if you stick with 4G, experts say you'll still see speed bump there as phone companies install new equipment.

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Sept. 24)	\$1.1282
Dollar buys (Sept. 24)	€0.8864
British pound (Sept. 24)	\$1.27
Japanese yen (Sept. 24)	105.00
South Korean won (Sept. 24)	1,162.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	\$1.2417
Canada (Dollar)	1.3271
China (Yuan)	7.1245
Denmark (Krone)	6.7946
Egypt (Pound)	16.3003
Euro	\$1.0989/0.9100
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8404
Hungary (Forint)	304.74
Israel (Shekel)	3.5145
Japan (Yen)	107.43
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3038
Norway (Krone)	0.9750
Philippines (Peso)	52.12
Poland (Zloty)	3.99
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7521
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3778
South Korea (Won)	1,196.12
Sri Lanka (Rupee)	9.9914
Thailand (Baht)	30.49
Turkey (Lira)	3.7479
(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, or nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)	

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.00
Discount rate	2.50
Federal funds market rate	2.50
3-month bill	1.86
30-year bond	2.20

Travelers stranded, jobs lost as Thomas Cook collapses

By GREGORY KATZ

AND CARLO PIVANO

Associated Press

LONDON — Hundreds of thousands of travelers were stranded across the world Monday after British tour company Thomas Cook collapsed, immediately halting almost all of its flights and hotel services and laying off all its employees.

Britain's Civil Aviation Authority confirmed Thomas Cook, a 178-year-old company that helped create the package tour industry, had ceased trading. It said the firm's four airlines will be grounded, and its 21,000 employees in 16 countries — includ-

ing 9,000 in the U.K. — will lose their jobs.

The collapse of the firm will have sweeping effects across the entire European and North African tourism industry and elsewhere, as hotels worried about being paid and confirmed bookings for high-season winter resorts were suddenly in doubt.

Overall, about 600,000 people were traveling with the company as of Sunday, though it was unclear how many of them would be left stranded, as some travel subsidiaries are in talks with local authorities to continue operating.

The British government said it was taking charge of getting the firm's 150,000 U.K.-based cus-

tomers back home from vacation spots across the globe, the largest repatriation effort in the country's peacetime history. The process began Monday and officials warned of delays.

A stream of reports Monday morning gave some sense of the extent of the travel chaos. Some 50,000 Thomas Cook travelers were stranded in Greece; up to 30,000 stuck in Spain's Canary Islands; 21,000 in Turkey and 15,000 in Cyprus alone.

An estimated 1 million future Thomas Cook travelers also found their bookings for upcoming holidays canceled. Many are likely to receive refunds under travel insurance plans.

The company had said Friday it was seeking \$250 million to avoid going bust and held talks over the weekend with shareholders and creditors in an attempt to stave off collapse.

CEO Peter Fankhauser said in a statement read outside the company's offices before dawn Monday that he deeply regrets the shutdown.

"Despite huge efforts over a number of months and further intense negotiations in recent days, we have not been able to secure a deal to save our business," he said. "I know that this outcome will be devastating to many people and will cause a lot of anxiety, stress and disruption."

WEATHER OUTLOOK



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

350-pound firefighter sues over harassment

NY HAUPPAUGE — A Long Island firefighter is taking his colleagues to court for what he said was incessant teasing about his weight.

The New York Post reported that John Munro filed a discrimination lawsuit in federal court against fellow firefighters in the Suffolk County hamlet of Hauppauge.

The nearly 350-pound Munro said he was called names like "cow" and "babe" and teased for taking up two seats in the firetruck.

Munro is a volunteer at the Hauppauge Fire Department. He seeks unspecified damages.

Elevator breaks down at reopened monument

DC WASHINGTON—The newly upgraded elevator at the Washington Monument stopped working just days after reopening to the public following a three-year renovation project.

The National Park Service said there was a "brief interruption in service" for about an hour Saturday.

Spokesman Mike Litterst said Park Service staffers resolved the issue and visitors who were at the top of the 555-foot stone obelisk were able to return to the ground floor using the elevator.

Woman runs own half marathon after mix-up

MA WORCESTER — A Massachusetts woman thought she was signing up to run a half marathon near her home, not across the Atlantic Ocean.

But after Sheila Pereira learned the Worcester City Half Marathon was actually being held in Worcester, England, on Sept. 15, she decided to run 13 miles that day anyway.

The Boston Globe reported Pereira sent the English race organizers a screenshot of a running route. The 42-year-old runner's fitness app showed she completed her own half marathon in two hours and five minutes.

After Pereira explained the mix-up, the Worcester City Half Marathon sent along a medal, a shirt and encouragement to travel the 3,000 miles to participate in her name in next year's race.

**State's sticker-covered
welcome sign auctioned**

ID SHOSHONE — The Idaho Transportation Department is auctioning one of the state line "Welcome to Idaho" signs that was recently retired.

The 4- by 8-foot sign is covered in stickers, many left by people who milled off the highway at the Idaho-Nevada border to take a break and snap pictures.

The department decided to replace the sign after the sticker buildup became too great.

The highest bid was \$510 on Thursday but quickly jumped to \$1,500 in the online auction runs through Thursday.

The department has placed



KEITH BIRMINGHAM, THE (ANAHEIM, CALIF.) ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER/AP

Holy 80th anniversary, Batman!

Batman and Captain America walk toward the start line of the Batman Inaugural 5K from the Batman fan experience on Batman's 80th anniversary at Grand Park in Los Angeles on Saturday.

an alternative sign for people to leave stickers — a large cutout of Idaho next to the new "Welcome to Idaho" sign.

Police dog captures suspected car thief

OR ROSEBURG — Nike was dogged and fast as it chased down a suspected car thief in Oregon.

Nike, named after the Greek goddess of victory and the namesake of the Oregon-based athletic shoe manufacturer, is a police dog.

According to Roseburg Police Sgt. Jeff Eichenbusch, Nike had his moment after Abigail Wallace was seen allegedly driving a stolen car. Police stopped the vehicle using a tire-puncturing device.

Eichenbusch said Wallace and a passenger fled on foot. K9 Nike chased Wallace down an embankment and across a creek. Wallace apparently started to give up, so Nike was called back to his handler. Wallace began running again. This happened twice more.

The third time, Eichenbusch said, Nike made a biting catch. Wallace received superficial scrapes.

**Postal service issues
stamps of found T. rex**

MT BOZEMAN — The U.S. Postal Service released two new postage stamps

THE CENSUS

\$6K

The amount in quarters allegedly stolen by a woman who hid them in a baby stroller. Bakersfield, Calif., police officers noticed the woman struggling to push the stroller and realized there was no baby inside, according to the Bakersfield Californian. Police discovered the quarters, which Darin Fritz, 29, is alleged to have stolen from a home, the newspaper reported. Fritz allegedly tried to flee from the officers. She was arrested on suspicion of burglary, possession of stolen property, possession of burglary tools, possession of methamphetamine, resisting arrest and two outstanding misdemeanor warrants.

depicting a dinosaur whose fossil was discovered on federal land in Montana.

The Bozeman Daily Chronicle reported that a Tyrannosaurus rex known as "The Nation T. rex" is now part of four designs on a pane of 16 new forever stamps that show the dinosaur in growth stages from infancy to adulthood.

Experts said the fossil was found by a family camping near the Fort Peck Reservoir and has been loaned to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington for the next 50 years.

**Money woes may force
Reagan's home to close**

IL DIXON — Ronald Reagan's boyhood home may have to close its doors due to financial woes.

The Ronald Reagan's Boyhood Home and Visitor's Center seeks donations to stay afloat, according to a WREX-TV report.

"Probably a year or two at the very, very most," Patrick Gor-

man, the center's executive director, said of how long it could keep the Dixon home open without a turn in fortunes.

The center generates \$30,000 a year through tours and the gift shop, but operating expenses cost about \$70,000 a year, creating a \$40,000 annual deficit, Gorman said.

The house is listed on the National Register of Historical Places but receives no government funding. Reagan was the 40th U.S. president.

**Police: 2 men with
forging tools arrested**

DE GEORGETOWN — Police in the Delaware community of Georgetown said two men were facing multiple charges after they were pulled over and officers found in the vehicle tools typically used to forge driver's licenses and other documents.

The Daily Times of Salisbury reported the arrests of Teddy

Turenne, 39, of New York, and Joseph Pascall, 29, of Georgia.

Police said the men were charged with possession of forgery devices, conspiracy and other counts.

Authorities said the men were stopped on suspicion of traffic violations, and a search of the vehicle yielded dozens of plastic cards, holograms with state seals and other items.

Llama undergoes 4-hour dental surgery

CO DENVER — A pack llama that absconded because of an abscess during a Yellowstone National Park guided trip last year underwent a four-hour operation to remove the malignant moles.

The Colorado Sun reported that Ike the runaway llama traveled from its Bozeman, Mont., home to Fort Collins, Colo., to root out the cause of its pain. There, it was treated at Colorado State University's James L. Voss Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

The abscess caused by a bacterial infection had likely bothered the llama for years.

The llama's previous owner said it ran off last August because its halter irritated the spot of the abscess. The llama was found and rescued last fall just days before most of Yellowstone's entrances were to be closed for winter.

From wire reports

FACES

Final crowning achievement

'Game of Thrones' named top drama; 'Fleabag' nabs four awards at Emmys

BY LYNN ELBER
Associated Press

"Game of Thrones" resurrected the Iron Throne at Sunday's Emmy ceremony, ruling as top drama on a night of surprises in which "Pose" star Billy Porter made history and the comedy series "Fleabag" led a British invasion that overturned expectations.

"This all started in the demented mind of George R.R. Martin," said "Game of Thrones" producer David Benioff, thanking the author whose novels were the basis of HBO's fantasy saga.

Porter, who stars in the FX drama set in the LGBTQ ball scene of the late 20th century, became the first openly gay man to win a best drama series acting Emmy.

"God bless you all. The category is here, you all know I'm so overjoyed and so overwhelmed to have lived to see this day," said an exuberant Porter, who wore a sparkling suit and swooping hair.

Amazon's "Fleabag," a dark comedy about a dysfunctional family, was honored as best comedy and earned writing and top acting honors for its British creator and star, Phoebe Waller-Bridge, as well as a best director trophy.

"This is getting ridiculous," Waller-Bridge said in her third trip to the stage.

Her acting was blocked "Veep" star Julia Louis-Dreyfus from setting a record as the most-honored performer in Emmy history. "Fleabag's" showing denied a fond farewell for its final season.

"Nooooo!" a shocked-looking Waller-Bridge said as Louis-Dreyfus smiled for the cameras. "Oh, my God, no. Thank you. I find acting really hard and really painful. But it's all about this," she said, clutching her acting trophy.

In accepting the writing award earlier, she called the Emmy recognition proof that "a dirty, perky, messed-up woman can make it to the Emmys."

Porter, a Tony and Grammy Award-winning performer, relished his groundbreaking moment. Quoting the late writer James Baldwin, he said it took him many years to believe he has the right to exist.

"I have the right, you have the right, we all have the right," he said.

English actress Jodie Comer was honored as best drama actress for "Killing Eve." She competed with co-star Sandra Oh, who received a Golden Globe for her role and would have been the first actress of Asian descent to win an Emmy in the category.

Bill Hader won his second consecutive best comedy actor award for the hit man comedy "Barry." Peter Dinklage, named best supporting actor for "Game of Thrones," set a record for most wins for the same role, four, breaking a tie with Aaron Paul of "Breaking Bad."

"Ozark" star Julia Garner won the best supporting drama actress trophy against a field including four actresses from "Game of Thrones."

The auditorium erupted in cheers when Jharrel Jerome of "When They See Us," about the Central Park Five case, won the best actor award for a limited-series movie.

"Most important, this is for the men that we know as the Exonerated Five," said Jerome, naming the five wrongly convicted men who were in the audience. They stood and saluted the actor as the crowd applauded them.

It was the only honor for the acclaimed Netflix series of the evening, "Chernobyl" won the best limited series honor.



Above: The cast and crew of "Game of Thrones" — including author George R.R. Martin, second from right — accepts the award for outstanding drama series Sunday in Los Angeles.

Left: Billy Porter wins the award for lead actor in a drama series for "Pose."

AP photos



Top Emmys winners

Complete list at Emmys.com.

Drama Series: "Game of Thrones"

Comedy Series: "Fleabag"
Actor, Comedy Series: Bill Hader, "Barry"

Actress, Comedy Series: Phoebe Waller-Bridge, "Fleabag"
Actor, Drama Series: Billy Porter, "Pose"

Actress, Drama Series: Jodie Comer, "Killing Eve"
Directing, Drama Series: Jason Bateman, "Ozark"

Supporting Actor, Comedy Series: Tony Shalhoub, "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel"

Supporting Actress, Comedy Series: Alex Borstein, "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel"

Supporting Actor, Drama Series: Peter Dinklage, "Game of Thrones"

Supporting Actress, Drama Series: Julia Garner, "Ozark"

Writing, Comedy Series: Phoebe Waller-Bridge, "Fleabag"

Reality-Competition Program: "RuPaul's Drag Race"

Limited Series: "Chernobyl"
Actor, Limited Series or Movie: Jharrel Jerome, "When They See Us"

Supporting Actress, Limited Series or Movie: Patricia Arquette, "The Act"

Supporting Actor, Limited Series or Movie: Ben Whishaw, "A Very English Scandal"

Actress, Limited Series or Movie: Michelle Williams, "Fosse/Verdon"

Writing, Limited Series: Craig Mazin, "Chernobyl"

Television Movie: "Black Mirror: Bandersnatch"

Writing, Variety Series: "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver"

Variety Sketch Series: "Saturday Night Live"

Variety Talk Series: "Last Week Tonight with John Oliver"

From The Associated Press

Total Emmys triumph for 'Fleabag,' Waller-Bridge

The Washington Post

When Phoebe Waller-Bridge walked onstage to accept the Emmy for outstanding comedy series, she said what seemed to be on everyone's mind: "Well, this is just getting ridiculous."

That's "ridiculous" in the best possible sense, of course, as the "Fleabag" creator had plenty to celebrate Sunday night. Not only did her series win one of the ceremony's most prestigious awards, but she also took home the trophies for best lead actress and writing in a comedy series. Director Harry Bradbeer won for his work on the show as well, calling Waller-Bridge "some kind of glorious grenade."

"Scientists are still trying to figure out how someone so utterly talented can be so lovely," he quipped. (That talent extends to selecting collaborators, as "Fleabag" bagged outstand-

ing casting and single-camera picture editing awards at the Creative Arts Emmys last weekend.)

The second season of "Fleabag" — which premiered on Amazon this past spring, a couple months after its British debut — was a critical smash, with several writers going so far as to call it the "best show" on television. Among its many praised qualities was the refreshing consciousness of Waller-Bridge's storytelling. Each season, the first released in 2016, consists of just six roughly half-hour episodes.

But those episodes pack a punch. The titular character's demeanor is far from that of the "lovely" English actress who plays her; while accepting the writing award, Waller-Bridge described Fleabag as a "dirty, perky, angry, messed-up woman."



SHIFTING GEARS



PHOTOS BY FORD/TNS

2020 Escape represents heart of America

By LARRY PRINTZ
Tribune News Service

There's a smug mindset at work in America that thinks the middle ground is no longer good enough. Listen to politicians, talking heads, celebrities, fashionistas and bloggers, and you'll see it. Extremism is taking hold in every facet of our lives, from our music to our TV shows, the politicians we are asked to vote for and even the clothes we're expected to wear.

Thankfully, the middle ground holds, and it's a wonderful place to be. And, believe it or not, there's a crossover SUV that embraces that American heart: the 2020 Ford Escape.

Welcome the fourth generation of the Ford Escape, offered for 2020 with two gasoline-powered drivelines and a new hybrid model. Totally redesigned for the new model year and wrapped in tastefully aerodynamic sheet metal, the new Escape wears variations of modern Ford styling cues, including a trapezoidal grille capped by the brand's classic blue oval badge. It's far more inviting than the third generation's awkwardly off-putting angular design motif, one that lived on well past its sell-by date.

Pleasingly modern and handsome, the Escape's cabin lacks the adolescent Game-boy design feel prevalent in too many cars these days. It's grown up, with a modern, sophisticated instrument panel, anchored by a center mounted flatscreen — 4.2-inch-

es on S models, 8 inches on others — and a dazzling full-color 12.3-inch digital instrument cluster in front of the driver. As in other Fords, the user interface is easy to figure out. Nevertheless, material quality is nothing special, and there's not much difference in feel regardless of trim level, be it S, SE, SE Sport, SEL and Titanium.

Also, some buyers may find the push-button starter hard to reach, as it's placed on an angled part of the instrument panel.

Others may find the rotary transmission dial takes some getting used to, but it frees up a lot of interior space.

But there's much to admire, with comfortably high seats with good headroom and legroom up front and generous rear seat legroom, superior to many competitors. Credit the rear seat that has 6 inches of fore and aft seat travel to adjust for more people or more cargo. Once underway, the cabin is very quiet, with negligible wind or road noise except on the very worst surfaces thanks to insulated front window glass.

Power comes from three different drivelines.

A 1.5-liter turbocharged three-cylinder engine and eight-speed automatic are standard on base S, SE and SEL models. Rated at 181 horsepower and 190 pound-feet of torque, it's offered with front-wheel or all-wheel drive. Optional on the SEL and standard on the Titanium SEL is a 2.0-liter EcoBoost four-cylinder engine rated at 250 horsepower and 280 pound-feet of torque. All-wheel drive is standard.

Ford also offers new Hybrid models, including a standard and plug-in variant, with a driveline rated at 200 horsepower and mated to a continuously variable automatic transmission.

Performance is satisfactory with the base 1.5-liter engine and effortless with its larger 2.0-liter sibling. Ironically, the hybrid's 2.5-liter four-cylinder gas engine is the Escape's largest gas engine, but it has a gruff sound that's out of character.

That said, performance is satisfying,

even in fuel-sipping Eco Mode. And when it comes to filling the Escape's tank, it won't break the bank — as the Hybrid returned a class-leading 45 mpg without much effort.

Regardless of engine, transmission behavior is exemplary, offering up quick shifts just when you need them. That said, manual mode seemed slow to respond. Body lean is very well controlled, coming on only as you start to reach the limits of adhesion.

Steering is nicely weighted, with a touch of road feel, although there seems to be a little too much play on-center. The hybrid's extra weight can be felt in corners, but it enhances the Escape's overall feel. Bump absorption is impressive, with no rebound and little to no body motion over bad surfaces. The Escape feels beautifully balanced and agile, returning a relaxed, refined driving experience.

As you'd expect, such driver assistance features as blind spot warning, cross-traffic alert, automatic high beams, lane-keeping assist, automatic emergency braking with pedestrian detection, forward collision warning, a rearview camera, and hill start assist are standard. Parking assist, adaptive cruise control and evasive steering assist are optional.

The redesigned 2020 Ford Escape has an elan and sophistication that seems to have escaped the previous version. With its handsome, conservative good looks, perfect size and up to date tech package, it should have little trouble reaching buyers.

2020 Ford Escape



Base price: \$24,885
Powertrain: 1.5-liter turbocharged three-cylinder
Power/torque: 181 horsepower/190 foot-pounds
EPA fuel economy rating: 27 mpg city/33 highway
Cargo capacity: 33.5-65.8 cubic feet

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The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market



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Lt. Col. Sean Klinek, Europe commander
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Caroline E. Miller, Europe Business Operations

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor
leonard.terry@stars.com
Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor
reid.robert@stars.com
Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content
croley.tina@stars.com
Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation
moores.sean@stars.com
Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital
gromelski.joe@stars.com

BUREAU STAFF

Europe/Mideast
Erik Slavin, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief
slavin.erik@stars.com
+1(408)313.3615.9350, DSN (314)583.9350

Pacific
Aaron Kidd, Pacific Bureau Chief
kidd.aaron@stars.com
+81-42.552.2511 ext. 88380, (315)227.7380

Washington
Joseph Cacchioli, Washington Bureau Chief
cacchioli.joseph@stars.com
+1(202)886-0033
Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News
bowers.brian@stars.com

CIRCULATION

Mideast
Robert Reisman, Mideast Circulation Manager
robert.r.reisman.naf@gmail.com
circulation@stars.com
DSN (314)583-9111

Europe
Karen Liles, Community Engagement Manager
liles.karen@stars.com
memberservices@stars.com
+49(0)631.3615.9090, DSN (314)583.9090

Pacific
Marl Mori, customerhelp@stars.com, or by phone at
+1(8) 3585.3171, DSN (315)229.3171

CONTACT US

Washington
tel. (202) 886-0023
633 3rd St. NW, Suite 116, Washington, DC 20001-3050

Reader letters
letters@stars.com

Additional contacts
stars.com/contactus

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Ernie Gates

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OPINION

A hit to whistleblowers' cost-benefit calculus

By ERIC R. HAVIAN
Special to The Washington Post

When news broke that the Trump administration had refused to provide Congress with the details of a formal complaint filed by a U.S. intelligence official who was troubled by a "promise" the president had made to a foreign leader, many politicians and ordinary citizens were alarmed. But another group with a more personal stake is quietly observing these events with even greater trepidation: potential national security whistleblowers.

If someone within the national security apparatus knows of activity that may not comply with the law and is considering whether to come forward, the cost-benefit calculus just took a turn for the worse.

Whistleblowers are almost always ambivalent about speaking up. Typically, they have a strong urge to call attention to wrongdoing, but they also must weigh the likely consequences. Plenty of people celebrate whistleblowers; others view them as "tattletales," not "team players" or worse. Most whistleblowers make a fundamentally simple calculation. The upside is exposure of wrongdoing, the satisfaction of seeing it redressed, a clear conscience and, sometimes, a financial reward. The downside includes possible loss of employment and, often, scorn from co-workers and others.

New whistleblower laws enacted over the past three decades have tipped the calculus decidedly in favor of disclosure. The False Claims Act, as amended in 1986, created rewards for whistleblowers of 15% to 30% of the amounts recovered from companies or contractors who defraud the federal government. The 2010 Dodd-Frank securities law and 1996 IRS tax law law created whistleblower rewards of 10% to 30% of the fines imposed on securities violators and large-scale tax cheats.

These laws also established serious penalties for companies that retaliate against whistleblowers, who might otherwise worry about being fired for coming forward. The laws thus sweetened the upside and blunted the downside for would-be whistleblowers.

The result was an explosion of whistleblowing and billions of clawed-back dollars flowing to the Treasury Department. Since the 1986 False Claims Act amendments, whistleblower cases have returned \$42 billion to the government, of which \$7 billion has been paid to those who exposed the lawlessness. The more recently enacted securities and IRS laws have seen similar results.

These financial rewards programs are unlikely to apply in the case of a national security whistleblower, so the cost-benefit assessment often stays close to equilibrium, with only a nudge needed to tip the scales in favor of silence.

The Trump administration has instead given the scales a rough shove.

The national security whistleblower who was worried about the implications of the president's communications with a foreign leader took those concerns to the inspector general for the intelligence community. The inspector general investigated and then reported the complaint to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence as "credible" and a matter of "urgent concern."

That term would have legally prompted disclosures to Congress about the complaint, but a DNI lawyer rejected the inspector general's assessment.

Now Congress is fighting to gain access to the report. But a discouraging message has already gone out to anyone in the intelligence community who might be thinking about reporting concerns about bad behavior: Just because you blow the whistle doesn't mean anyone will hear it. That ef-

fectively eliminates the most important upside of coming forward: exposure of wrongdoing and the satisfaction of seeing that wrongdoing addressed.

The whistleblower in the current fracas has the worst of all worlds. He or she found the courage to speak out, but the message was blocked by the administration; going public would be a drastic step, because the Espionage Act, a very broad law that punishes anyone who discloses national security information, is a powerful deterrent to whistleblowing in national security matters. The whistleblower made a cost-benefit calculation, raised an alarm and discovered that the benefit — exposure of potential wrongdoing — may never materialize.

On the cost side, it is not hard to imagine that senior intelligence officials are aware of the whistleblower's identity and as servants of a president who prizes fealty above all else, would search for a pretext to have the person fired.

As concerns have mounted over the past few years about the administration's handling of national security, so too has the need for potential whistleblowers in the intelligence community to feel confident that they will be heard. To that end, Congress should consider measures like those in the False Claims Act and other laws that reward such whistleblowers and protect them from retaliation.

Somewhere, someone with a security clearance is watching the fate of the unnamed national security whistleblower and the fate of the whistleblower who was raised. As the battle between the Trump administration and Congress continues, the way the scales ultimately tip may dictate whether the nation learns about possible malfeasance of even greater, more urgent concern.

Eric R. Havian, a former federal prosecutor, is an attorney with Constantine Cannon and has represented whistleblowers for 25 years.

Only Congress has authority to lock and load

By RAMESH PONNURU
Bloomberg News

After the attacks on Saudi oil fields this month, President Donald Trump tweeted, "There is reason to believe that we know the culprit, are locked and loaded depending on verification, but are waiting to hear from the Kingdom as to who they believe was the cause of this attack, and under what terms we would proceed."

Vice President Mike Pence echoed the remark, down to the diction: "In the wake of this unprovoked attack, I promise you, we're ready. We're locked and loaded and we're ready to defend the interests of our allies."

If it is verified that Iran was behind the attack, should the U.S. take military action in response? It was an attack on the Saudis, not on America. There are no treaty obligations to treat an attack on the kingdom as an attack on the U.S. It has the means to respond itself. Striking at Iran could lead to a major military conflict and destabilize the region. This administration has not inspired confidence in its ability to manage any such conflict well.

All of these are good reasons to refrain from an aggressive response, even if, as Trump has also suggested, the Saudis would reimburse the U.S. for our trouble. We're not their mercenaries.

But there's another question to be answered before deciding whether to strike Iran: Who should make the decision? The answer has to be Congress. The Constitu-

tion gives the legislative branch, not the president, the power to decide whether to go to war.

Even Alexander Hamilton, the Founder most supportive of broad claims of executive authority, acknowledged the president's limits in initiating war. In 1798, he wrote that the president had the power "to repel force by force" and "to repress hostilities within our waters." He added, "Anything beyond this must fall under the idea of reprisals and requires the sanction of that Department which is to declare or make war." In other words: Congress.

In an 1801 article, Hamilton argued strenuously that if another country has made war on the U.S., the president may use force without congressional approval. But he also noted that the "plain meaning" of the Constitution is that only the legislature may shift the nation from a state of peace to a state of war.

While it is true that modern presidents have tended not to acknowledge that they need congressional approval before going to war, enough of the original understanding of the proper division of authority has survived that presidents have often asked for that approval anyway. President George H.W. Bush got Congress to bless military action to drive Iraq out of Kuwait in 1991. President George W. Bush obtained congressional approval for the post-9/11 wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. President Barack Obama sought congressional authorization for military action against Syria, and stood down when that authorization was not forthcoming.

Trump administration officials have sometimes hinted, or reportedly claimed, that they believe Congress has already given them authorization to use force against Iran. The argument is that the 2001 authorization for the use of military force against those who perpetrated or aided in the 9/11 attacks covers Iran today. That law has been stretched to the point of abuse, aided by the refusal of Congress to take any action to update it. But to apply it to Iran would be an abuse. It would more readily authorize attacks against Saudi Arabia, homeland of 15 of the 19 hijackers, than attacks on its behalf.

Go back to Hamilton's distinction. An attack on Saudi oil fields is not an attack on us. It does not move us into a state of war by itself, the way an attack on America would. There is no need for immediate action. The administration is on its own account deliberating over what to do. So far it has merely tightened sanctions, a step that falls well short of war. However harsh sanctions may be in effect, they merely preclude undertaking certain economic transactions with the Iranian regime.

It would be imprudent in the extreme for Congress to bless military action against Iran to retaliate for an attack on the Saudis, but it would be constitutionally permissible. Absent congressional action, it wouldn't be. America isn't locked and loaded until Congress says so.

Ramesh Ponnuru is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He is a senior editor at National Review, visiting fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and contributor to CBS News.

Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons



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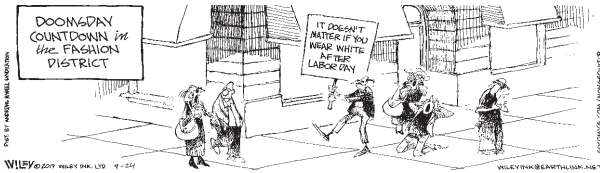
Dilbert



Pearls Before Swine



Non Sequitur



Candorville



Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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48									49		50	
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ACROSS

- Rosary component
- IRS employees
- Green
- Gables girl
- Bamboozle
- Jessica of "Dark Angel"
- Spiny critter
- July birthstone
- GPS suggestion
- Proverbs
- Tender spots
- End-of-wk. cry
- Nest setting
- McGruff, most notably
- Shoe width
- Unites
- Historic period
- Tadpole
- Blueprint
- Recedes
- Fetch
- Small beard
- Romance
- Redact
- Jumping game
- Ocean motion
- Superman foe Luthor
- "The Music Man" setting

DOWN

- Crystal gazer groups
- Devious
- Wee
- Singing groups
- Noisemakers for bovines
- Sandwich shop
- Port of Algeria
- Turf-war side
- Agree
- Missive
- Business goal
- Conk on the head
- Understands
- "Garfield" dog
- Staffer
- Declares
- UFO crew
- Darkens
- Dance move
- Popular cookie
- Stagger
- French cleric
- Like candles
- Sushi choice
- King, in Cannes
- Have
- Festive

Answer to Previous Puzzle

T	I	N		M	A	N	E	S		M	U	D
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9-24

CRYPTOQUIP

ZB FWSK NKHWYC GKWGTK
BKKT XKDTTM FWXXM BWX
CPKSEKTHKF, FPWYTN CPKM


PDHK D GZKCM GDXXCM?
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BIG WALT DISNEY MOVIE DEPICTING STRANGE EVENTS IN ACTOR WARREN'S DREAMS: "SLEEPING BEAUTY."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals F

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Announcements 040

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Automotive 140

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Autos for Sale 141

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Roundup

Indians move into tie for second wild card

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — The Cleveland Indians have overcome injuries and setbacks throughout the season and remained in the playoff race. The outcome will be decided in the final week.

Cleveland moved into a tie for the second AL wild card with a 10-1 win over the Philadelphia Phillies on Sunday night. The Indians matched the Tampa Bay Rays with six games to play. Both teams are 92-64 and two games behind Oakland, which leads the wild-card race.

The Indians, playing their final home game, took advantage of the Athletics and Rays both losing Sunday. Cleveland had an off-day Monday before the final stretch.

"We're kind of at the point of the year where we better win regardless," Cleveland manager Terry Francona said. "I'd be lying if I said I was rooting for them to win, but we better win every game we can."

The Indians are embracing the challenge of what lies ahead, starting Tuesday with three games in Chicago against the White Sox and three in Washington.

The Phillies (79-75) are six games out in the NL wild-card chase with eight games left. They open a five-game series at Washington on Monday night. The Nationals and Braves are tied for the top spot.

Cardinals 3, Cubs 2: Paul Goldschmidt hit a tiebreaking double in the ninth inning and St. Louis clinched a playoff spot by rallying past Chicago for its first four-game sweep at Wrigley Field in almost a century.

NL Central-leading St. Louis qualified for the postseason for the first time since 2015 and stayed three games ahead of Milwaukee. It was the fifth consecutive win for the Cardinals, who came back for a 9-8 victory Saturday on consecutive homers by Yadier Molina and Paul DeJong against Craig Kimbrel in the ninth.

The time, Chicago manager Joe Maddon sent a dominant Yu Darvish (6-5) back to the mound for the ninth to go for his first complete game since 2014. But the result was the same in the Cubs' fifth consecutive one-run loss.

Brewers 4, Pirates 3: Eric Thames hit two home runs and host Milwaukee took a combined perfect game into the seventh inning to beat Pittsburgh and match Washington atop the NL wild-card standings.

Orlando Arcia connected for the Brewers, but the shortstop also let a line drive tip off his glove with one out in the seventh for a hit that ended the perfect game bid in Milwaukee's regular season home finale.

Dodgers 7, Rockies 4: Hyun-Jin Ryu hit a home run and pitched seven solid innings, Cody Bellinger hit a grand slam and host Los Angeles reached the 100-win mark.

Los Angeles joined Houston and the New York Yankees to give the major leagues three 100-game winners for the third straight season. Before 2017, the only years with three 100-win teams were 1942, 1977, 1998, 2002 and 2003.

Yankees 8, Blue Jays 3: Luis Severino (1-0) struck out nine over five scoreless innings for his first win of the season, and New York hit three home runs as it beat Toronto in its regular season home finale.

New York (102-55) moved 47 games over .500 for the first time since its record-setting 114-victory season in 1998. The AL East champions clinched home-field advantage in the AL Division Series starting Oct. 4 and are competing with Houston for the top record in the AL.

Twins 12, Royals 8: Nelson Cruz hit his 400th career home run, Miguel Sano connected twice and Minnesota powered past visiting Kansas City to remain four games ahead of Cleveland for the AL Central lead.

Kansas City joined Baltimore, Detroit and Miami with 100 losses, only the second time in major league history there have been four 100-loss teams in one season.

Rangers 8, Athletics 3: Willie Calhoun hit two of visiting Texas' five homers and the Rangers slowed Oakland's wild-card push.

The A's had no 10 of 11 but couldn't stretch their two-game lead over Tampa Bay for the top AL wild card.

Red Sox 7, Rays 4: Nathan Eovaldi (2-0) pitched six gritty innings, Christian



Phil Long/AP

The Indians' Carlos Santana singles off Philadelphia Phillies pitcher Vince Velasquez during the first inning of Sunday's game in Cleveland. The Indians won 10-1.

Vazquez hit a three-run homer and Boston beat playoff-contending host Tampa Bay.

Tampa Bay dropped into a tie with Cleveland for the second AL wild card, and both teams trail Oakland by two games for the top spot.

Marlins 5, Nationals 3: Three relievers each gave up an extra-base hit in a seventh-inning meltdown, and visiting Washington's streak of 11 consecutive wins against Miami ended in a loss that dropped the Nationals into a tie with Milwaukee for the top NL wild card.

Giants 4, Braves 1: Rookie Logan Webb allowed only two hits and one run in six innings. Evan Longoria drove in two runs with two hits and San Francisco beat Dallas Keuchel (8-7) and host Atlanta.

Padres 6, Diamondbacks 4 (10): Doolittle Seth Mejias-Brean hit a two-run homer

with no outs in the 10th inning and San Diego beat visiting Arizona to give interim manager Rod Barajas his first win since taking over for the fired Andy Green.

Mets 6, Reds 3: Michael Conforto homered to cap a four-run first inning and visiting New York gave its faint playoff hopes a boost. J.D. Davis and Brandon Nimmo also connected for the Mets, who remained 4½ games behind Milwaukee for the second NL wild card.

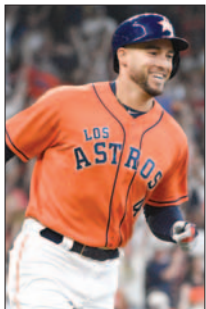
Tigers 6, White Sox 3: Willi Castro hit his first major league homer, one of four connections by host Detroit in a win over Chicago. Jeimer Candelario, Gordon Beckham and Victor Reyes also went deep.

Orioles 2, Mariners 1: Chris Davis homered off Marco Gonzales (16-12) in the seventh inning to carry Baltimore past visiting Seattle.

FROM PAGE 25

Cardinals 3, Cubs 2

St. Louis	ab	r	h	bi	Chicago	ab	r	h	bi
Fowler rf	3	0	0	1	Rizzo 1b	4	0	2	0
Edman 2b	3	0	2	0	Baez 3b	0	0	0	0
Gonzalez 1b	4	0	2	0	Bore 3b	0	0	0	0
Ozuna lf	3	0	0	0	Catlin rf	4	2	2	1
Molina c	3	0	0	0	Brantley 2b	1	0	0	0
Carpenter 3b	3	0	0	0	Happ 3b-1b	2	0	0	0
Seaver pr-3b	0	0	0	0	Schultz 1b	0	0	0	0
DeJong ss	3	1	1	1	Almonte cf	0	0	0	0
Bader c	0	0	0	0	Zobrist 2b	4	0	0	0
Wright ph	1	0	0	0	Carrasco c	0	0	0	0
Arozarena c	0	0	0	0	Contreras ph	1	0	0	0
Nikolas 2	2	0	0	0	Hyund rf	4	0	1	0
Webb p	0	0	0	0	Hoerner ss	4	0	0	0
Marshall ph	0	0	0	0	St. Louis	0	0	0	0
O'Neill pr	0	1	0	0	Total	0	0	0	0
Miller p	0	0	0	0					
Wells p	0	0	0	0					
St. Louis totals	31	7	3	3	Chicago totals	33	2	9	1
DP—St. Louis 3, Chicago 2, L08—St. Louis 3, Chicago 6, 2B—Edman (29), Castellanos (16), SF—Fowler (6).									



ERIC CHRISTIAN SMITH/AP

The Astros' George Springer rounds the bases after hitting a solo home run during Sunday's game in Houston.

Astros rout Angels, clinch AL West

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

Associated Press

HOUSTON — George Springer, Justin Verlander and the Houston Astros put a check mark in the September box.

And amid the celebration of clinching their third straight AL West title, they already were thinking ahead to what they might achieve in October.

"You can't ever take the first goal for granted," Verlander said. "I know everybody says we're going to win the World Series, but you can't do that without this first. So, step one complete. Now we have the divisional round coming up and we'll ... prepare for that and try to win 11 games."

Springer hit a career-high three homers, Verlander posted

his MLB-leading 20th win and the Astros secured the division crown in grand fashion, routing the Los Angeles Angels 13-5.

A crowd at Minute Maid Park that was cheering from Verlander's first pitch got even louder as Springer homered three times in the first four innings. The Astros kept breaking away and improved to 102-54, a half-game ahead of the New York Yankees for the best record in the majors.

Springer, the MVP of the 2017 World Series, had two chances to tie the big league record for home runs in a game. He popped up with the bases loaded in the fifth and grounded out in the seventh.

Verlander (20-6) yielded six hits and two runs in five innings to reach 20 wins for the second time in his career and the first

since winning the AL MVP and Cy Young Award in 2011 when he went 24-5 for Detroit. This year's AL Cy Young front-runner struck out five to leave him six strikeouts shy of becoming the 18th pitcher in MLB history to reach 3,000.

The 36-year-old righty has fanned 288 this season, second most in his career in second in the majors behind teammate Gerrit Cole.

Verlander, who leads the AL with a 2.53 ERA, is the first Astros pitcher to win 20 games since Dallas Keuchel went 20-8 in 2015 when he won the Cy Young.

The Astros won their ninth division title. They took the NL West in 1980 and 1986, the NL Central in 1997-99 and 2001 and their three most recent titles in the AL.

OLYMPICS/AUTO RACING/NFL

Russian officials fear ban

WADA giving nation 3 weeks to explain possible tampering

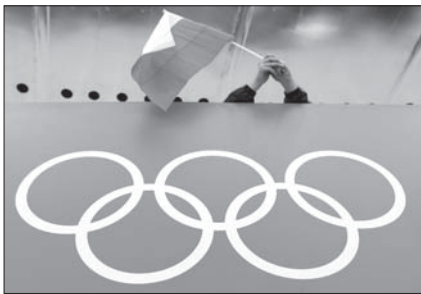
BY JAMES ELLINGWORTH
AND EDDIE PELLIS
Associated Press

DOHA, Qatar — The World Anti-Doping Agency is giving Russia three weeks to explain possible signs of tampering with data from its doping laboratory, an accusation which Russian officials fear could lead to a ban from next year's Olympics.

WADA heard about the possible tampering at its executive committee meeting Monday in Tokyo. Turning over the data was a key requirement for the reinstatement of Russia's anti-doping agency, and WADA has formally ordered a compliance procedure that could lead to a new ban if the data was manipulated.

The computer files were critical to prosecuting cases against athletes alleged to have cheated at the 2014 Olympics and other major events.

"The situation is very serious," Russian Olympic Committee president Stanislav Pozdnyakov



DAVID J. PHILLIP/AP

A Russian skating fan holds the country's national flag over the Olympic rings before the men's 10,000-meter speedskating race at Adler Arena Skating Center during the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia on Feb. 18, 2014.

said in a statement.

He added that if Russia can't either refute the claim or identify potential suspects, "then the Russian Olympic team's prospects of taking part in the Games in Tokyo next year could be under threat." Russia was already required to send an officially neutral, smaller-than-usual squad of "Olympic Athletes from Russia" to last year's Winter Olympics as a punishment from the International Olympic Committee for doping offenses. However, the IOC has since signaled that it considers the matter closed.

When asked about the data investigation Tuesday, the IOC said it "fully respects this process" and WADA's jurisdiction.

The data was handed over to WADA in January after Russia breached an earlier deadline of Dec. 31, 2018. Before then, it was stored in a sealed-off area of the laboratory under the control of

Russian law enforcement.

The data has been used to support suspensions against 12 Russian weightlifters, including 10 former world or European championship medalists, and cases in the winter sport of biathlon. WADA said it would continue to pursue cases while this latest review is ongoing.

The International Weightlifting Federation said it will "urgently liaise with WADA" about how to continue its cases.

WADA has been criticized for reinstating RUSADA under terms less stringent than the original roadmap. But director general Olivier Nigghi told The Associated Press he stood by the decision.

"I believe it was actually a very important decision and absolutely the right decision," Nigghi said. "I'm convinced that we would not have the data if we had not taken that decision, so we would not even be talking about it today."

Newgarden wins championship

BY JENNA FRYER
Associated Press

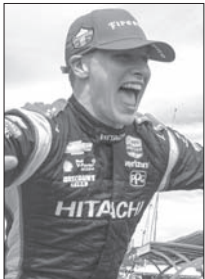
MONTEREY, Calif. — Josef Newgarden wrapped up his second IndyCar championship and burst into tears — an odd reaction for a steady-nerve race car driver who rarely shows emotion. The outburst of emotion took him by surprise and shocked his fiancée, who had never before seen tears from Newgarden.

"I never cry. Ever. Even my fiancée is a little disturbed," said Newgarden. "And it was a good cry."

It was nearly two hours after his championship drive Sunday around Laguna Seca Raceway and Newgarden was still a bit emotional. Talking about the moment he collapsed into his crew members arms, choking back tears, he again nearly broke down.

"It just feels like a big weight," Newgarden has been lifted," Newgarden said.

He won his second championship in three years with a smooth drive in the IndyCar season finale, where he played it safe and watched rookie Colton Herta dominate to the win.



DAVID ROYAL/AP

Josef Newgarden celebrates with his team after winning the championship after Sunday's IndyCar race at Laguna Seca Raceway in Monterey, Calif.

Newgarden needed only to finish fourth or better to give Roger Penske his 16th IndyCar title. His drive clearly indicated he wouldn't get aggressive and risk throwing it away, settling in for an eighth-place finish to beat

teammate Simon Pagenaud by 25 points in the championship race. It wasn't the way he wanted to race, though.

"I knew the points in my head, I can tell you that, I knew exactly where we were," Newgarden said. "I was very aware of what was going on. I thought we were going down a rabbit hole and it wasn't the hole for us to go down. We were shadowing (Alexander) Rossi, that's what we were doing. I just really tried to stay around him all day, and I wasn't sure we were going down the right hole."

The championship gave Team Penske a season sweep of the crown jewels of IndyCar; Pagenaud won the 500-mile May for Penske's record 18th win.

Pagenaud was frantically chasing Scott Dixon and Penske teammate Will Power in the closing laps to get a shot at Herta — Pagenaud's only real chance at winning the title — but settled for fourth in what will still go down as a career-defining season. His sweep of all the events at Indianapolis Motor Speedway in May earned him a contract extension that Penske confirmed before the race has been completed.

Alright: Youngsters step in, step up

FROM BACK PAGE

Teddy Bridgewater was steady in place of Drew Brees, guiding the Saints to victory in Seattle, as tough a place to win as any.

Kyle Allen, probably the most famous in the NFL for once being a teammate of Kyle Murray's at Texas A&M, was a revelation in place of Cam Newton as the Panthers got their first victory of the season, in Arizona.

Carolina coach Ron Rivera wasted no time Monday ruling out quarterback Newton for a second straight game due to a lingering mid-foot sprain. Rivera said there is "no timetable" for Newton's return and that the 2015 league MVP will continue to receive treatment.

Gardner Minshew is making Jaguars fans wonder why he was a sixth-round draft pick, stepping in for Nick Foles and looking like a starter (and future star).

Daniel Jones, the guy who caused Giants general manager Dave Gettleman to be vilified for drafting the Duke QB sixth overall last April, looked worthy of a No. 1 overall pick. He stepped in for what the TV announcers were calling a New York legend, the benched Eli Manning, and lifted the team to last-minute victory at Tampa.

Only Mason Rudolph, replacing Ben Roethlisberger (elbow surgery) for the Steelers, didn't get a win among the newcomers. But he didn't embarrass himself at all — and had Pittsburgh in position to beat San Francisco.

Plus, in Indianapolis, this stuff isn't new for Jacoby Brissett, but his name certainly belongs high on the list of quarterbacks — eight teams already have them — who were not considered the starter last month and now are in charge of their teams.

Yes, one-quarter of the league, as injuries, ineffectiveness and in one case, a retirement (Andrew Luck), created a sea wave of change that still could turn into a tsunami.

There's no guarantees the likes of Marcus Mariota, Case Keenum, Jameis Winston or even Andy Dalton, despite his solid performances in Cincinnati's 9-3 start, will remain behind center.

And that's not even considering more injuries that often come, no matter how much NFL rules try to protect the passer.

For Week 3, though, let's celebrate these youngsters who stepped in and stepped up.

Kyle Allen: In his second-career start, Allen had four touchdown passes and a 144.4 QB rating.

"He's a guy who really keeps his composure," Carolina coach Ron Rivera said. "He understands. He's smart. He's got a good football mind."

Not to mention the arm and legs he showed.

Allen will make his second straight start Sunday when the Panthers visit the Houston Texans.

Daniel Jones: At some point, it was clear the struggling Giants would turn to Jones. It came a bit earlier than some expected. So did his first NFL heroics.

Jones threw for 336 yards and



RICK SCUTERI/AP

Panthers head coach Ron Rivera said on Monday that there is "no timetable" for 2015 league MVP Cam Newton's return.

two touchdowns and also ran for two TDs, including the go-ahead score with 1:16 remaining as New York rallied from an 18-point halftime hole to win 32-31.

"There's certain things that I knew about this kid when we drafted him. He was tough, he was competitive, and in my opinion he's a winner," Giants coach Pat Shurmur said. "Now the rest of it is just quarterback stuff. But those first three things give him a chance to move forward."

Teddy Bridgewater: It's been a long road back for Bridgewater, who looked like Minnesota's franchise quarterback before a severe knee injury forced him to miss all most two seasons.

Teaming with coach Sean Payton, whose offensive expertise obviously isn't limited to handling game plans to Brees, Bridgewater was exactly what the team needed.

"I said all week Teddy is a leader," Saints running back Alvin Kamara said after Bridgewater threw for a touchdown, was not picked, and helped New Orleans to a huge road victory. "He had composure. He had poise and we got it done."

Gardner Minshew: The rookie threw two touchdown passes against Tennessee last Thursday and also had a receiver drop a ball in the end zone. He's already a star in North Florida.

"Nothing rattles this kid," coach Doug Marrone said. "He's really good at communication and I think he's really good at preparing himself and making sure there are no surprises out there for him. That's just a guy that has a managerial work ethic."

Mason Rudolph: The showing by the second-year QB, basically a caddy for Roethlisberger until now, should calm the three rivers a bit in Pittsburgh. Rudolph wasn't spectacular, but also was victimized by some errors around him in the 24-20 loss to the Niners. He has no reason to hang his head.

For a young guy to come and start his first game in an away game on the West Coast and go against a great team, I think he handled himself well," wideout JuJu Smith-Schuster said. "There were situations where we messed up, didn't execute or turned the ball over. He stayed positive and kept us going."

PASSING—Houston. Watson 25-34-0
351. **Los Angeles,** Rivers 31-46-0-318.

RECEIVING—Houston. Hopkins 6-67
Fuller 5-51, Fells 5-49, Stills 4-89, Akins 3
73, DuJohnson 2-22. **Los Angeles,** Allen 13
183, Ekelor 7-45, Jackson 4-4, Williams 3-45
Benjamin 2-5, Inman 1-23, Kendrick 1-13.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Houston, Fair
bairn 56.

NFL



Mark LoMocio/AP

Giants quarterback Daniel Jones, left, celebrates his touchdown run against the Buccaneers with wide receiver Darius Slayton on Sunday, in Tampa, Fla. New York won 32-31.

Giants rally past Buccaneers

Rookie QB Jones throws for 2 TDs, runs for 2 more in first career start

By FRED GODDALL
Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla.—Daniel Jones is making the decision to bench Eli Manning look like a good one.

At least through one game.

The sixth overall pick in this year's NFL draft threw for 336 yards and two touchdowns and also ran for two TDs, including the go-ahead score with 1:16 remaining as the New York Giants rallied from an 18-point halftime deficit to beat the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 32-31 on Sunday.

"There's certain things that I knew about this kid when we drafted him. He was tough, he was competitive, and in my opinion he's a winner," Giants coach Pat Shurmur said. "Now the rest of it is just quarterback stuff. But those first three things give him a chance to move forward."

Jameis Winston threw for 380 yards and put the Bucs (1-2) in position to pull out a dramatic win, but rookie Matt Gay's 34-yard field goal sailed wide right as time expired.

Jones scored on a 7-yard run in the second quarter and put the Giants ahead with another 7-yarder on fourth-and-goal. The rookie began New York's comeback with a 75-yard TD pass to Evan Engram on the first play of the second half, and a 7-yarder to Sterling Shepard midway through the third quarter.

"He plays with so much poise. You really can't tell he's a rookie," Shepard said.

Winston threw TD passes of 21, 3 and 20 yards to Mike Evans

Giants 32, Buccaneers 31

New York	3	7	15	7	32
Tampa Bay	12	16	0	3	31

First Quarter
TB—Evans 21 pass from Winston (kick failed), 9:47.
NYG—FG Rosas 36, 4:07.
TB—Evans 3 pass from Winston (kick blocked), :21.

Second Quarter
NYG—D.Jones 7 run (Rosas kick), 9:58.
TB—FG Gay 27, 7:38.
TB—FG Gay 27, 4:06.
TB—Evans 20 pass from Winston (Gay kick), 1:26.

NYG—Engram 75 pass from D.Jones (S.Shepard pass from D.Jones), 14:48.
NYG—S.Shepard 7 pass from D.Jones (Rosas kick), 8:14.

Third Quarter
TB—FG Gay 52, :00.
NYG—Engram 75 pass from D.Jones (S.Shepard pass from D.Jones), 14:48.
NYG—S.Shepard 7 pass from D.Jones (Rosas kick), 8:14.

Fourth Quarter
TB—FG Gay 23, 6:00.
NYG—D.Jones 7 run (Rosas kick), 1:16.
A—55,070.

Individual Statistics
RUSHING—New York, D.Jones 4-28, S.Shepard 2-11, Gillman 5-13, Barkley 8-10, Tampa Bay, R.Jones 14-80, Barber 13-48, Perriman 1-13, Winston 4-3.

PASSING—New York, D.Jones 23-36-0-36, Tampa Bay, Winston 23-37-1-380.

RECEIVING—New York, S.Shepard 7-100, Engram 6-113, Barkley 4-27, Slayton 3-42, R.Shepard 1-6, Fowler 1-5, Ellison 3.

Tampa Bay, Evans 8-190, Howard 3-66, Godwin 3-40, Ogunblode 3-23, Barber 2-7, Brate 2-7, R.Jones 1-41, Perriman 1-5.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Tampa Bay, Gay 34.

Time of Possession—NYG 32:12, TB 33:12.

Individual Statistics
RUSHING—New York, D.Jones 4-28, S.Shepard 2-11, Gillman 5-13, Barkley 8-10, Tampa Bay, R.Jones 14-80, Barber 13-48, Perriman 1-13, Winston 4-3.

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RECEIVING—New York, S.Shepard 7-100, Engram 6-113, Barkley 4-27, Slayton 3-42, R.Shepard 1-6, Fowler 1-5, Ellison 3.

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Tampa Bay, Evans 8-190, Howard 3-66, Godwin 3-40, Ogunblode 3-23, Barber 2-7, Brate 2-7, R.Jones 1-41, Perriman 1-5.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Tampa Bay, Gay 34.

Bridgewater, Kamara help Saints top Seahawks

By TIM BOOTH
Associated Press

SEATTLE — Teddy Bridgewater wanted to stay composed. He wanted to remain calm and in control while taking over for the next several weeks with the New Orleans Saints' leader, Drew Brees, sidelined with injury.

But emotions can be hard to control. And in the moments before making his first meaningful start since the 2015 playoffs, they all hit Bridgewater.

"I was thinking about the process from the time I was injured up until now and just thinking about all the ones who believed in me and just being back on this stage," Bridgewater said.

Three years removed from a knee injury that nearly ended his career, Bridgewater was an unexpected winner Sunday. He threw two touchdown passes in his first start with Brees out, watched his teammates add TDs on defense and special teams and help lead the Saints to a 23-7 win over the Seattle Seahawks.

"I said all week Teddy is a leader," Saints running back Alvin Kamara said. "He had composure. He had poise and we got it done."

Bridgewater threw a 29-yard touchdown to Kamara late in the first half on a screen pass where the talented running back bounced off several tacklers on his way to the end zone. He added a 1-yard TD toss to Michael Thomas on fourth-and-goal on the first possession of the second half, a drive kept alive by an illegal



Teo S. Warren/AP

The Seahawks' Bobby Wagner, right, tries to stop Saints running back Alvin Kamara during the second half of Sunday's game in Seattle. New Orleans won 33-27.

formation penalty against Seattle on a missed field goal attempt.

Also crucial for New Orleans (2-1) were a pair of first-half touchdowns with Bridgewater standing on the sideline.

Deonte Harris took a punt back 53 yards for a score in the first quarter, and Vonn Bell picked up Chris Carson's third lost fumble in three games, and returned it 33 yards for a TD in the second quarter.

Saints 33, Seahawks 27

New Orleans	7	13	7	6	33
Seattle	0	0	0	20	27

First Quarter
NO—Harris 53 punt return (Lutz kick), 12:06.

Sea—Lockett 8 pass from Wilson (Myers kick), 2:24.

Second Quarter
NO—Bell 23 fumble return (kick failed), 6:50.

NO—Kamara 29 pass from Bridgewater (Lutz kick), 3:33.

Third Quarter
NO—Thomas 1 pass from Bridgewater (Lutz kick), 7:44.

Sea—Wilson 2 run (Myers kick), 11:51.

NO—Kamara 1 run (run failed), 4:19.

Sea—Wilson 8 run (Myers kick), 2:48.

Sea—Disily 4 pass from Wilson, :00.

A—60,075.

Individual Statistics
RUSHING—New Orleans, Kamara 16-99, Bridgewater 3-12, Hill 1, Murray 2, Line 1-0, Seattle, Carson 15-53, Wilson 7-51, Proise 4-5.

PASSING—New Orleans, Bridgewater 19-27-0-27, Seattle, Wilson 22-30-0-406.

RECEIVING—New Orleans, Kamara 9-94, Thomas 5-54, Ginn 2-15, Cook 1-7, Hill 1-5, Hill 1-4, Seattle, Lockett 11-154, Disily 6-62, Proise 5-38, Brown 3-30, Metcalf 2-67, Turner 2-19, Moore 1-29, Vannett 1-9, Carson 1-minus 29.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

NFL



Kansas City Chiefs wide receiver Demarcus Robinson makes a one-handed touchdown catch during the first half against the Baltimore Ravens on Sunday in Kansas City, Mo.

Mahomes tosses 3 TDs as Chiefs defeat Ravens

By DAVE SKRETTA
Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Kansas City Chiefs played the red-hot Baltimore Ravens without their best wide receiver, their lead running back and their stalwart left tackle.

They still had Patrick Mahomes, though. The reigning NFL MVP threw for 374 yards and three touchdowns in another record-setting performance as Kansas City's defense corralled Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson most of the rain-soaked afternoon, allowing the Chiefs to squeak out a 33-28 victory Sunday.

"Everyone gets reps with the starters, and guys just build that confidence that they can play," said Mahomes, whose 13 games of at least 300 yards passing broke Kurt Warner's mark for the most in the first 20 games of a career. "Whenever someone gets an opportunity they make plays."

Such as wide receivers Demarcus Robinson and Mecole Hardman, who had TD catches while Tyreek Hill recovers from a broken collarbone. Or LeSean McCoy and Darrell Williams, who combined for 116 yards rushing and a score in place of injured running back Damien Williams. Or Cam Erving, who filled in for left tackle Eric Fisher and helped to limit the Ravens to one sack.

"I trust that guys are going to step up and play," said Chiefs coach Andy Reid, whose 210th

Chiefs 33, Ravens 28
Baltimore Kansas City 6 0 7 15-28 0 23 7 3-33

First Quarter
Bal—Ingram 2 run (run failed), 4:24.
KC—McCoy 1 run (Butker kick), 14:18.
KC—Robinson 18 pass from Mahomes (Butker kick), 7:52.
KC—Hardman 63 pass from Mahomes (kick failed), 3:00.
KC—FG Butker 42, :05.

Second Quarter
Bal—Ingram 19 run (Tucker kick), 10:35.
KC—McCoy 14 pass from Mahomes (Butker kick), 2:07.

Third Quarter
Bal—Ingram 1 run (pass failed), 12:22.
Bal—FG Tucker 39, 6:39.
KC—FG Butker 36, 4:36.
Bal—Jackson 9 run (run failed), 2:01.
A—7:59.

Fourth Quarter
Bal—Ingram 19 run (pass failed), 12:22.
Bal—FG Tucker 39, 6:39.
KC—FG Butker 36, 4:36.
Bal—Jackson 9 run (run failed), 2:01.
A—7:59.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
RUSHING—Baltimore, Ingram 16-103, Edwards 7-53, Jackson 8-6, Hill 1-1.
Kansas City, Dar Williams 9-52, McCoy 8-54, Mahomes 4-9, Thompson 4-8, Hardman 1-7.

PASSING—Baltimore, Jackson 22-43-0-267.
Kansas City, Mahomes 27-37-0-374.
RECEIVING—Baltimore, Boyle 4-58, Ingram 4-32, Sneed 3-47, Andrews 3-15, M. Brown 2-49, Roberts 2-37, Edwards 2-15, H. Hurst 2-14.
Kansas City, Kelce 7-89, Watkins 5-64, Dar Williams 5-47, Robinson 4-33, McCoy 3-26, Hardman 2-97, Pringle 1-7, Bell 1-1.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

Victory broke a tie with Chuck Noll for sixth-most in NFL history. "Each one of them collectively had a pretty good day. They took advantage of their opportunity." Missed opportunities doomed

the Ravens. They were stuffed once on fourth down, and they were unsuccessful on three two-point conversion attempts.

The last came after Jackson scrambled for a TD with 2:01 to go. The conversion would have gotten the Ravens (2-1) into a field goal, but Jackson was shoved out of bounds short of the pylon.

Baltimore tried to get the ball back with a dropkick, but the Chiefs (3-0) called for a fair catch. They converted on third down moments later to run out the clock.

Mark Ingram was the Ravens' biggest bright spot, running for 103 yards and three TDs while catching four passes for 32 yards. Jackson finished with 267 yards passing and 46 rushing, most of it when he was trying to rally the Ravens from a big halftime hole.

McCoy, hobbled by a sore ankle all week, gave Kansas City the lead with a TD run in the second quarter. Then, after a Ravens turnover on downs, Mahomes lofted a pass to the corner of the end zone that Robinson caught with a one-handed stab.

Stats and streaks

The Ravens' defense, No. 2 in the league after the first two weeks, surrendered 503 yards of total offense. ... Baltimore lost for the second time in 10 games with Jackson as the starter. ... The Chiefs have scored 26 or more points in an NFL record 24 consecutive regular-season games.

Rams defense saves victory over Browns

By TOM WITHERS
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Backed up to their own goal line, the Rams buckled down.

Safety John Johnson III intercepted Baker Mayfield's fourth-down pass with 27 seconds left as Los Angeles escaped with a 20-13 victory Sunday night over the short-handed Cleveland Browns, who gave the defending NFL champions all they could handle.

Cooper Kupp caught two touchdown passes from Jared Goff and the Rams stopped Mayfield on four consecutive plays from the 4-yard line in the final minute.

The Rams (3-0) remained unbeaten — and perfect against AFC teams in the regular season under coach Sean McVay — by barely holding back the Browns (1-2), who were missing their entire starting secondary and still took the Rams to the final snaps.

"Unbelievable," McVay said. "It was really a great job by them. I just thought to be able to regather themselves. Four straight downs and fighting through it. They locked it down big time. It was just incredible."

On the Browns' final play, Mayfield, who was under pressure most of the night from Aaron Donald and Clay Matthews III, tried to force a pass to the right corner for Damien Ratley, but Johnson made the interception. "It was a fight for the ball," Johnson said. "He wanted it, but I had to have it."

The Browns showed they can hang with one of the NFL's elite teams. However, their offense remains out of sync. Cleveland had too many penalties and first-year coach Freddie Kitchens made a questionable decision on fourth down in the fourth quarter.

After Goff's second TD pass to Kupp gave the Rams a 17-13 lead with 12:48 left, the Browns marched to the Rams' 40 and stalled. Instead of punting on fourth- and 9th, Kitchens went for it and Nick Chubb was stopped for 2 yards on a draw play and the Rams took over.



Cleveland Browns running back Nick Chubb is taken down by Los Angeles Rams linebacker Bryce Hager, top, and defensive tackle Aaron Donald during the first half Sunday night in Cleveland.

Rams 20, Browns 13

L.A. Rams 2 0 7 10-20 Cleveland 0 0 7 0-13

First Quarter
LA—FG Zuerlein 53, 4:06.
Cle—FG Seibert 23, 1:41.
Cle—FG Seibert 30, :00.

Second Quarter
LA—Kupp 11 pass from Goff (Zuerlein kick), 10:40.
Cle—Harris 2 pass from Mayfield (Seibert kick), 4:37.

Third Quarter
LA—Kupp 6 pass from Goff (Zuerlein kick), 12:48.
LA—FG Zuerlein 37, 6:37.
A—67:59.

Fourth Quarter
LA—Kupp 6 pass from Goff (Zuerlein kick), 12:48.
LA—FG Zuerlein 37, 6:37.
A—67:59.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
RUSHING—Los Angeles, Gurely 14-43, Woods 2-18, Goff 4-14, Cooks 1-8, M. Brown 3-7.
Cleveland, Chubb 23-96, Mayfield 1-minus 1.
PASSING—Los Angeles, Goff 24-38-2-289.
Cleveland, Mayfield 18-36-1-195.
RECEIVING—Los Angeles, Kupp 11-102, Cooks 8-112, Woods 3-40, Everett 2-15.
Cleveland, Beckham 6-56, Chubb 4-38, Landry 3-62, Ratley 3-26, Seals-Jones 1-14, Harris 1-2.

MISSED FIELD GOALS—Los Angeles, Zuerlein 48.

"Bad call," Kitchens said. Cleveland caught a break when safety Justin Burris intercepted a Goff pass with 2:46 left. Mayfield completed a 27-yard pass on third-and-15 and drove to the Rams' 4, but he threw four consecutive incompletions as the comeback came up short.

Kupp, who underwent surgery on his left knee and missed the final six games last season, finished with a career-high 11 receptions for 102 yards.

Matthews honored

Clay Matthews, a steady and popular linebacker for 16 seasons with the Browns, was inducted into the team's ring of honor at halftime. Matthews was a four-time Pro Bowler, played in 278 games and had 76.5 sacks. His son, Clay, who is in his first season with the Rams, emerged from the locker room at the end of the ceremony and hugged his dad.

DAVID DERMER/AP

SPORTS

**Astronomical results**Houston wraps up third straight division title » **Page 26**

NFL

These kids are alright

New QBs generally look like headliners stepping in

By BARRY WILNER
Associated Press

Oh, the moans and groans in Nawlins. The consternation in Steeltown. The woe is me refrains in Carolina's Queen City. The joke's on me attitude in Jax.

And the tabloid screams in the Big Apple.

Maybe all of that dread and disgust will quiet down, at least for a week. Hey, folks, the new guys at quarterback did pretty darn well for your teams.

SEE ALRIGHT ON PAGE 27

Inside:

■ Mahomes' 3 TDs lead Chiefs over Jackson, Ravens, Page 31

Pictured, clockwise from top: The Giants' Daniel Jones; Saints' Teddy Bridgewater; Colts' Jacoby Brissett; Steelers' Mason Rudolph, and Jaguars' Gardner Minshew.

AP photos



Russia fears ban over data tampering » Olympics, Page 27

